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# HISTORIC ONTARIO

"Old  
Upper Canada"



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**LESLIE M. FROST, C**  
Prime Minister

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**T**HIS brochure has been prepared in the hope that it will add interest to the travels of Ontario's citizens and tourists visiting our historic province. It does not pretend to give comprehensive coverage to Ontario's history or historic sites. Our public libraries contain many excellent books and periodicals dealing with the regional history of the province for those who wish to pursue the subject in more detail.

However, it is hoped that, by drawing attention to some of the more important historical

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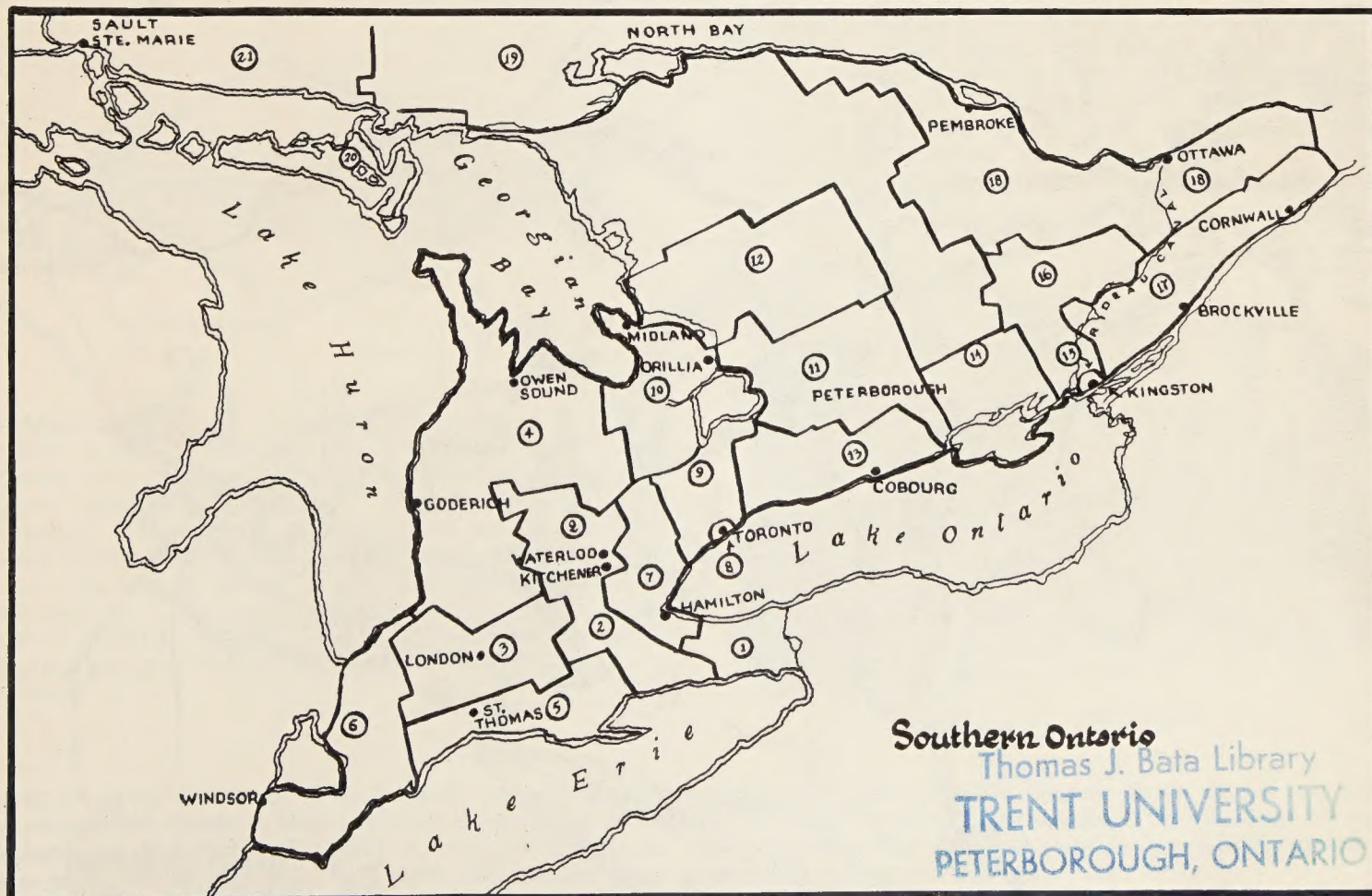
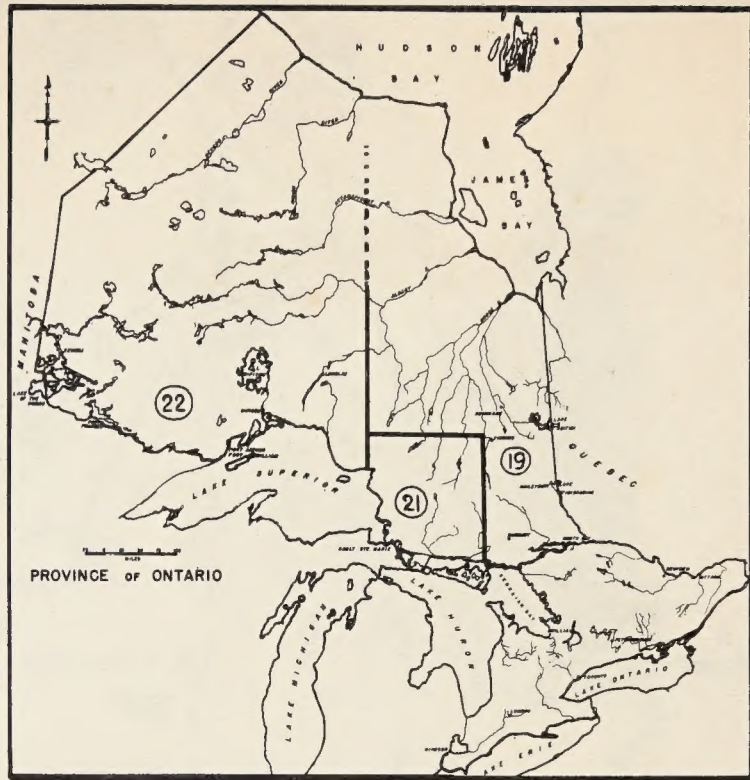
**PRESENTED BY**

**DR. W.E. TAYLOR**




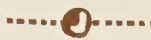



# Historic Regions of Ontario

	<i>Page</i>
1. Niagara Peninsula - - - - -	5
2. Grand River Region - - - - -	14
3. Thames Valley Region - - - - -	19
4. Lake Huron Region and Huron Tract -	21
5. Lake Erie Region - - - - -	22
6. The Border Region - - - - -	23
7. Head of Lake Ontario Region - - -	24
8. Toronto (York) - - - - -	26
9. Yonge Street Region - - - - -	29
10. Huronia - - - - -	31
11. Trent Waterway Region - - - - -	35
12. Muskoka and Haliburton - - - - -	37
13. Central Lake Ontario Region - - -	37
14. The Bay of Quinte Region - - - -	39
15. Kingston - - - - -	41
16. The Rideau Canal Region - - - -	44
17. The St. Lawrence Region - - - - -	45
18. The Ottawa Valley Region - - - -	48
19. Northeastern Ontario - - - - -	51
20. Manitoulin - - - - -	53
21. Algoma - - - - -	54
22. Northwestern Ontario - - - - -	56

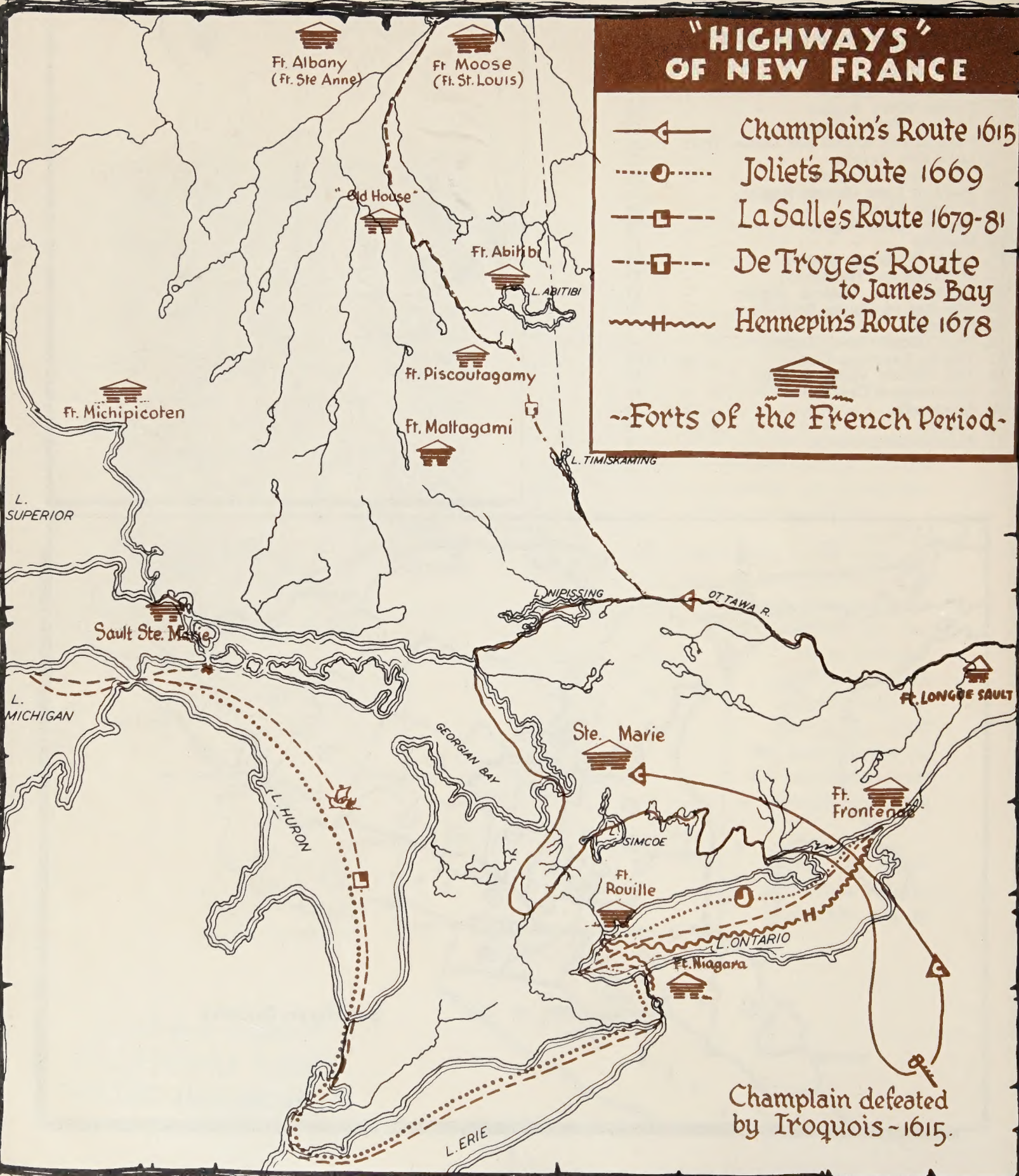




# "HIGHWAYS" OF NEW FRANCE

-  Champlain's Route 1615
-  Joliet's Route 1669
-  La Salle's Route 1679-81
-  De Troyes' Route to James Bay
-  Hennepin's Route 1678

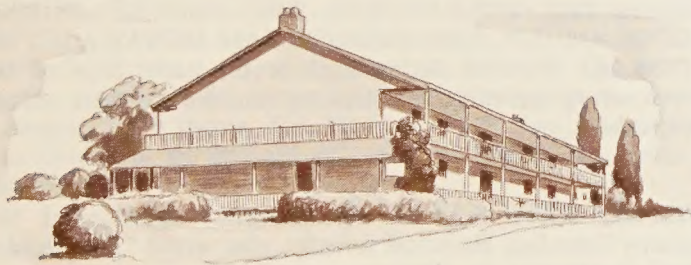
  
--Forts of the French Period--





# Niagara Peninsula

CANADA's vineyard is a district of beauty, romance and history. To Niagara came many of the Loyalist refugees from New York, particularly former inhabitants of the Mohawk Valley. Col. John Butler and his Rangers who made many daring raids against the rebels during the American Revolution had their headquarters here as did the famous Mohawk leader, Joseph Brant. In the 1780's settlers took up land on the Niagara River and along the shores of Lake Ontario toward Burlington. The peninsula was also the site of some of the most important battles of the War of 1812 which was, for Canadians, truly a struggle for survival. One of the first areas of extensive settlement, Niagara contained prosperous communities at a time when most of the province was still a wilderness.



Battlefield House

**STONEY CREEK:** Here, in the early hours of June 6, 1813, a British force commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel John Harvey made a successful surprise attack on the United States army commanded by Brigadier-General John Chandler. The outcome was of great significance since defeat of the British and Canadian forces might well have led to the loss of all the western and central portions of the province. The nearby Gage farmhouse, now called **BATTLEFIELD HOUSE**, was used as American headquarters and as a hospital during the encounter. It is now a museum.

**GRIMSBY:** This community was one of the first in the province to be settled. Several very early homes may still be seen including the privately owned **NELLES MANOR** built in 1798. A plaque commemorates the fact that the province's earliest town meeting (the forerunner of today's municipal government) was held in Grimsby in 1790. A cairn commemorates the site of the "Battle of the Forty."



Nelles Manor

**JORDAN:** First known as "The Twenty" because it was situated twenty miles from the Niagara River, Jordan was settled by Mennonites, Quakers, Huguenots and others, many of whom came in search of religious freedom. Two buildings of architectural and historical interest are the old "vintage house" and a typical stone mid-19th century schoolhouse which are now preserved as museums. A massive old wooden wine press stands nearby.



# Niagara-on-the-Lake

**T**HIS charming little town has been known by various names such as Butlersburg and Newark but is officially entitled Niagara. The first Session of Upper Canada's parliament was held here in 1792 under Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe when the site of Toronto was still covered with forest. Niagara saw much action during the War of 1812 and was burned to the ground by retreating American forces in 1813. It was raised from its ashes and remained a centre of importance until the construction of the Welland Canal bypassed much of its trade. Today, it retains a charming 19th century atmosphere that is rare in the bustling North American civilization.

**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH:** The Presbyterians had a Meeting-House in Niagara as early as 1792. It was replaced by a church on the present site in 1794 but this was burned by United States troops in 1813. The present St. Andrew's, erected in 1831, is one of the finest remaining examples of colonial church architecture in the province. The interior has been preserved in its original form and retains its high pulpit and box pews.

**ST. MARK'S CHURCH:** This church serves a parish founded in 1792. It was first built 1804-09 and during the War of 1812 was used by the British as a hospital and by the Americans as a barracks. Burned by the latter, it was rebuilt in 1822. The outlines of military entrenchments may still be seen in its ancient churchyard.



St. Mark's Church



St. Andrew's Church

**THE OLD WHALE INN:** Built in the 1830's, it occupied a strategic site near the Customs House at the ferry landing. It is now a private residence. Many other private homes such as *THE WILDERNESS*, *THE CLENCH HOUSE*, *BROCKAMOUR*, *THE GOODERHAM HOUSE* and *THE STEWART HOUSE* dating back to the early days of the 19th century are still in existence giving the village a unique atmosphere.

**WILLIAM KIRBY F.R.S.C.:** The former residence of this famous Canadian historical novelist who wrote "The Golden Dog" is situated in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

**THE NEGRO BURIAL GROUND AND SLAVE RIOT:** In its early days Niagara contained a large population of coloured people who had sought refuge here from slavery. In 1830 a negro Baptist church was built whose outlines may still be traced in the grounds of the old negro cemetery on Mississauga Road. So greatly were the town's inhabitants opposed to slavery that, in 1837, they released an escaped slave, Solomon Moseby, who was being returned from the Niagara District gaol to his master in the United States. Plaques mark the sites of the burying ground and the District court-house and gaol.

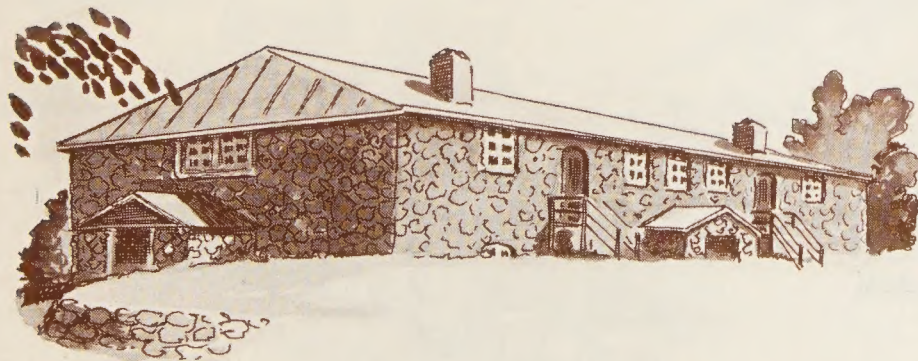
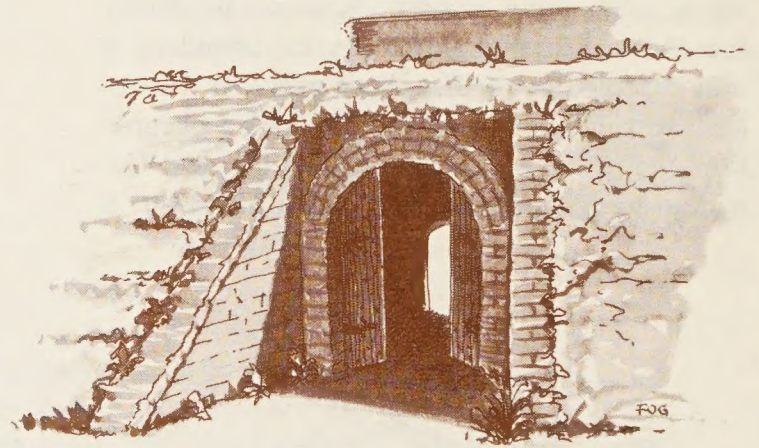
**BUTLER'S BARRACKS AND BURIAL GROUND:** On the military reserve is the last of the group of buildings which served as quarters for the corps of Loyalist Rangers commanded by Col. John Butler during the Revolutionary War. The nearby Butler family burying ground contains the remains of Col. Butler and several of the Loyalists who served under him.





## Fort Mississauga

**A**FTER occupying American forces retired in 1813, the inhabitants of Niagara returned to their shattered town. Fort George had proved inadequate and a more substantial fortress was erected which became known as Fort Mississauga. It consisted of a central keep, and outlying defences in the form of a five-pointed star. This was an unusual feature in the military architecture of the period and is the only example of its type in Canada. Bricks and rubble from the ruins of the town were utilized in its construction. Fort Mississauga was completed following the War of 1812 and, although garrisoned at various periods until the 1860's, was never attacked.



**NAVY HALL:** Built at the time of the Revolutionary War, this structure was one of three or four rectangular wooden buildings originally erected for the use of the Naval Department. One served for a time as the residence of Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe and there he entertained such distinguished visitors as the Duke of Kent, Alexander Mackenzie, Joseph Brant and the Duc de la Rochefoucault. The Provincial Legislature is also believed to have held sittings in one of these buildings. In later years, this remaining structure was known as the "Red Barracks" and was used as a storehouse. Covered with a stone facing, it is now in use as an historical museum.

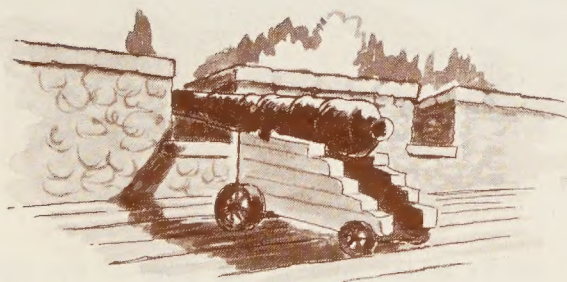


# Fort George

This military post, whose plans were approved by Col. Simcoe, was constructed between 1796 and 1799 to take the place of Fort Niagara on the American side which had been finally transferred to the United States in the former year. Fort George became the headquarters of the British garrison at Niagara until May, 1813 when, after being severely damaged by enemy fire and largely demolished by its defenders, it was occupied by an American army. It was rebuilt to some extent during the enemy occupation and after its recapture by British and Canadian forces in December, 1813. However, it



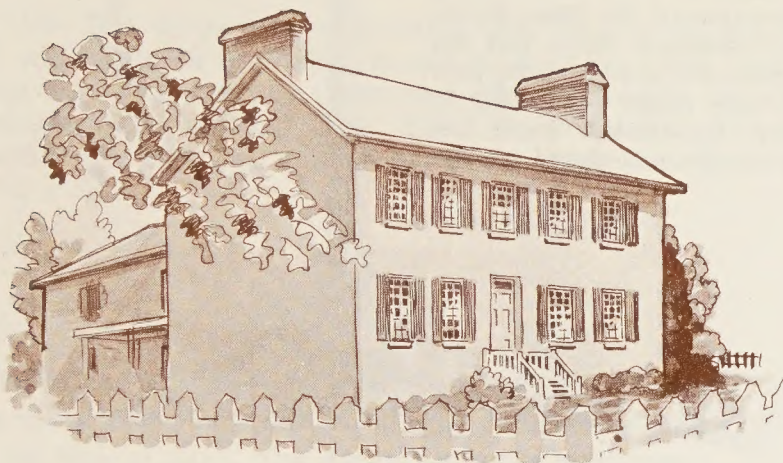
Today the bastions, stockade, officers' quarters, men's barracks, powder magazine and other structures are accessible to all persons interested in the history of these stirring times.



was abandoned at the end of the War of 1812 and replaced by Fort Mississauga. Between 1937 and 1940 it was completely restored by the Niagara Parks Commission according to the plan of the original fort of 1799-1813.







McFarland House

**McFARLAND HOUSE:** On the River Road between Niagara-on-the-Lake and Queenston is a fine, brick Georgian house erected in 1800 by James McFarland whose father, John, purchased the land about 1795. It was used during the War of 1812 as a hospital by both British and United States forces. The building has been renovated and is open to the public.

**THE DE PUISAYE HOUSE:** Another historic structure on the Niagara-on-the-Lake-Queenston road is the house built by the Comte de Puisaye (1754-1827) in 1799. This nobleman, driven out of his native land during the French Revolution, attempted unsuccessfully to establish a colony of Royalist émigrés along Yonge Street north of York (Toronto). De Puisaye himself lived in his Niagara house until 1805 and subsequently returned to England. The present structure includes only one half of the original house and is privately owned.

**THE EMBARKATION POINT:** Just north of the McFarland House, is a ravine leading down to the Niagara River. Under cover of darkness in the early hours of December 19, 1813, a force under Col. John Murray consisting of detachments of the 100th and 41st Regiments, Royal Scots, Royal Artillery and Canadian militia, embarked here in bateaux. Landing on the opposite shore and some distance up stream, they marched on American-held Fort Niagara which, together with most of its garrison, was soon captured.





# Queenston Heights

**H**ERE, On October 13, 1812 was fought one of the decisive battles of the War of 1812 after American troops crossed the river and occupied these commanding Heights. During the preliminary stages of the battle, Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, who had hurried up from Fort George, led an attack with inadequate forces and was killed. A subsequent attack led by Major-General Sheaffe drove the invaders from their position and, in the ensuing struggle, most of the United States troops were killed or captured. With his aide-de-camp, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonnell, Brock lies buried under the 185 foot stone shaft which now soars above the battlefield.

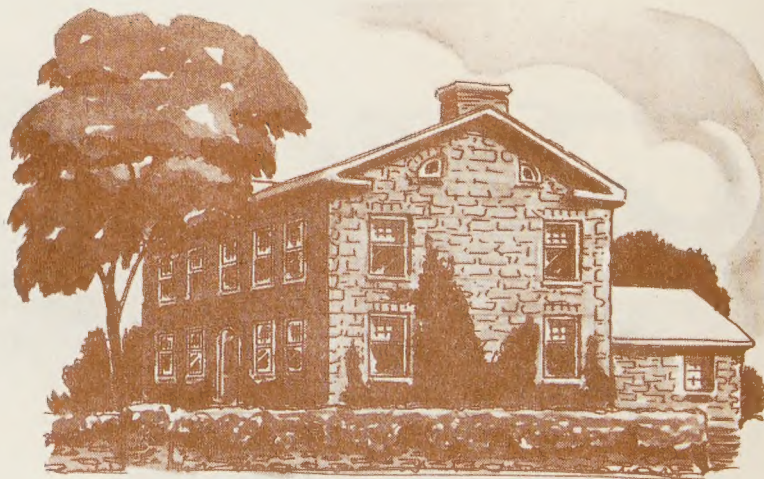


**FORT DRUMMOND AND FORT RIAL:** These earthworks were constructed in May and June of 1814. They were abandoned and dismantled on the approach of superior enemy forces in July of that year, and reoccupied by British troops shortly afterwards.

**MACKENZIE'S PRINTING HOUSE:** In this Queenston house, now a public museum, William Lyon Mackenzie started his newspaper "The Colonial Advocate" in 1824. Through its editorials he attacked the provincial administration and the group of persons who held most of Upper Canada's higher offices and whom the Reformers called the Family Compact. His radical convictions led him eventually to incite and lead an armed rebellion in December, 1837. On its failure, he escaped, crossed the Niagara River to the United States and later established a headquarters on *NAVY ISLAND* situated in that stream a short distance above the Falls. He was imprisoned for a time by American authorities and remained in the United States until the amnesty of 1849 allowed him to return to Canada.

**LAURA SECORD'S HOUSE:** A residence (now privately owned) once occupied by Laura Secord still stands in Queenston.

**GENERAL BROCK**, hero of the War of 1812, was born on Guernsey Island in 1768 and entered the British army at the age of 15. Tall and commanding in appearance, forthright and unswerving in personality, he was popular with officers and soldiers alike. His leadership and inspiration brought victory to British arms in the early days of the War when Canada's small population and inadequate military strength seemed doomed to conquest by a superior adversary. His brilliant strategy in moving quickly to Detroit where General Hull and his entire army were captured, upset the United States' plan of invasion at the commencement of the War. At Queenston his tall figure made an ideal target for the enemy.



Mackenzie's Printing House



# Niagara Falls

**T**HE first white man to describe this tremendous cataract was Father Louis Hennepin, a Recollet friar who visited it in 1678. The old *NIAGARA PORTAGE ROAD*, one of the earliest in the province running from Chippewa to Queenston, passed through the site of the present city of Niagara Falls as did this province's first railroad, *THE ERIE & ONTARIO*. The town's rapid growth in the latter part of the 19th century was based to a large extent on the tourist trade and the utilization of electricity generated from the great Falls.

**LUNDY'S LANE:** Here, on July 25, 1814, was fought the most sanguinary and stubbornly contested battle of the War of 1812. The American forces were commanded by Major-General Jacob Brown and the British at first by Major-General Phineas Riall and later by Lieutenant-General Sir Gordon Drummond. Most of the action took place at night amid considerable confusion and with the capture and recapture of various key positions. Although neither side could claim complete victory, this action checked the advance of the Americans who withdrew the next day to Fort Erie.



Lundy's Lane Monument

**DRUMMOND HILL CEMETERY:** One of the earliest in the province, it contains the graves of many of the pioneer settlers of the area, as well as the remains of soldiers from both sides who fell at Lundy's Lane.

**ALLANBURG:** Near the bridge is a cairn marking the site where the construction of the first *WELLAND CANAL* was started. The canal's construction greatly assisted the economic progress of Upper Canada by connecting Lake Ontario with the upper lakes and the West.

**BRIDGEBURG (FORT ERIE):** A cairn near here marks the site of the *BATTLE OF FRENCHMAN'S CREEK* (November 27, 1812), as well as a landing place of Fenian Raiders on May 31, 1866.

**RIDGEWAY:** Here, on July 2, 1866, a strong force of invading Fenians under "General" John O'Neill which had crossed from the United States defeated a detachment of Canadian militia. Shortly afterwards, the approach of British and Canadian reinforcements compelled the Fenians to withdraw.





**LAURA SECORD:** Born in Massachusetts in 1775, Laura Ingersoll, a United Empire Loyalist, came with her parents to the Niagara Peninsula after the Revolution. She married Sergeant James Secord of the 1st Lincoln militia. In 1813, while American troops were billeted in her home at Queenston, she overheard them speaking of a proposed attack on British forces at Beaver Dams. She then made her way through the American lines and over some twenty miles of wild and unsettled country to Beaver Dams. Conducted by Indians to Lieutenant



Fitzgibbon's post at the DeCou House, she warned him of the impending attack. The American raiding force was subsequently defeated and its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Boerstler, captured. In her later years, Laura Secord resided in Chippawa where the house she occupied still stands and is now a private residence.



Laura Secord's Chippawa Home

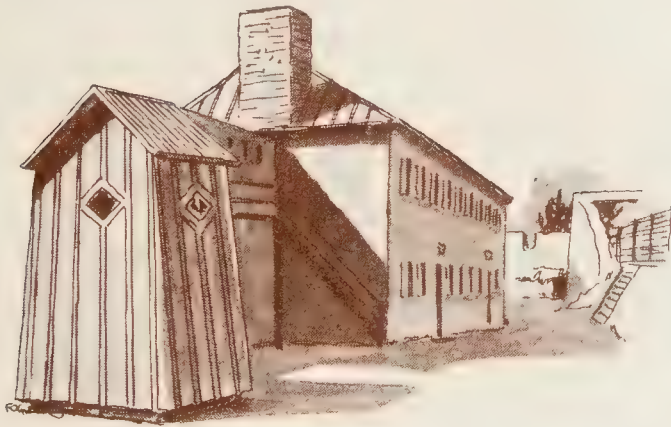
**THE DECOU HOUSE AND FALLS**—Captain John DeCou, a Loyalist settler, had built a substantial house and mills at the falls which now bear his name situated on the Niagara Escarpment some twenty miles inland from Queenston. While serving in the militia, he was captured at the beginning of the War of 1812 but his family remained at the house and it became the headquarters of a British and Canadian force under Lieutenant James Fitzgibbon. This force kept watch on the movements of the United States army which had occupied Fort George on the Canadian side of the Niagara River. It was to this place that Laura Secord made her heroic journey. The house remained intact until very recent times. On its foundation a commemorative plaque has been placed and the location, with its nearby mill site, still retains some of its original historical atmosphere.



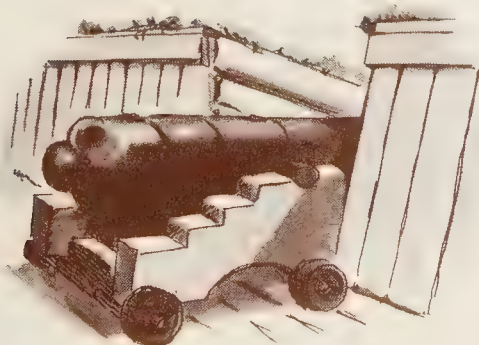




**I**N 1764 Captain Montresor of the British army built a rather primitive fort here which was intended primarily for defence against Indian attack. It was undermined by the waters of the lake in 1799 and the post which replaced it suffered the same fate in 1803. The third fort, a more substantial structure, was only partially completed when the War of 1812 commenced and was captured by an American army on July 3, 1814. The Americans strengthened its defences and on August 14, 1814 repulsed a strong British attack led by Lieutenant-General Sir Gordon Drummond. However, in November, 1814, forces of the United States abandoned it.



Fort Erie was restored 1937-39 by the Niagara Parks Commission and houses an important collection of arms and accoutrements.







## Grand River Region

**I**N 1784 a large proportion of the *SIX NATIONS INDIANS* who had supported the Crown during the American Revolution moved from their former homes in northern New York to the Grand River. These Iroquois were granted a strip of territory from its source to its mouth and stretching back six miles on each side of the stream. The present Reserve, centring around Ohsweken, is part of the original grant and on it dwell descendants of that mighty tribal alliance which once held the balance of power between the disputing European colonies of this continent. In their "Longhouses", many of the old customs are still carried on and in the Council House, built in 1864 to replace one built of logs in 1784, many interesting mementoes of the Six Nations colourful past may be seen. Each summer an impressive pageant illustrating some phase of their historic past is performed by the Six Nations.

**TOM LONGBOAT:** A plaque beside the Council House commemorates Tom Longboat, an Onondaga Indian from

the Reserve, who was one of the greatest long distance runners the world has ever known.



Chiefswood

**CHIEFSWOOD:** Near the village of Onondaga is the former home of Emily Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake). Her father, the Mohawk chief G. H. M. Johnson, built this house about 1853 for his English bride. Their daughter, born here in 1861, became one of Canada's best known poets. Through her writings and dramatic recitals she did much to preserve Indian pride and traditions.



**BRANTFORD**—Here, in 1784 at Brant's Ford, *JOSEPH BRANT* (Thayendanegea), the great chief who led the Six Nations and supported the Crown during the Revolution, established his "Mohawk Village". He and his son, Captain John Brant, were for many years the most influential leaders of their people. In the early 1830's their land here was sold to white settlers and a town site established. Joseph Brant's monument in Victoria Park is an artistic masterpiece.

**THE BELL HOMESTEAD (Tutela Heights):** The significance of this building may be stated in Alexander Graham Bell's own words. "The conception of the telephone took place during the summer visit to my father's residence in Brantford in 1874 and the apparatus was just as it was subsequently made, a one membrane telephone on either end. The experiment of August 10, 1876, made from Brantford to Paris was the first transmission, the first clear, intelligible, transmission speech over the real line that had ever been made." The house is now kept open to the public as a museum of telephone history.



The Bell Homestead



Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks

**H. M. CHAPEL OF THE MOHAWKS:** St. Paul's, Brantford, built in 1785, was the first Protestant church building in what is now Ontario. It was erected for the Indians with the aid of a grant from King George III and replaced the Queen Anne Chapel at Fort Hunter, New York, lost as a result of the Mohawks' alliance with the British during the Revolution. In the custody of this congregation is a portion of the silver Communion service given to the Mohawks in 1712 by Queen Anne. The graves of Captain Joseph Brant and his son, John, may be seen in the adjacent churchyard.





Paris Plains Church

**GALT:** In 1816 the Hon. *WILLIAM DICKSON* of Niagara purchased the land constituting Dumfries Township. He immediately proceeded to open up and settle his holding and engaged as his superintendent, *ABSALOM SHADE*, an indefatigable and resourceful Pennsylvanian. As their headquarters in Dumfries, they chose a location known at first as Shade's Mills where a sawmill, grist-mill and distillery were soon erected. Dickson, who had been born in Scotland, had attended school there with John Galt and, in the latter's honour, later gave his settlement the name of his friend. As might be expected, Dickson encouraged a large number of Scots to take up residence in Dumfries. His former home in Galt (Kirkmichael) still exists as a private residence. Memories of early Galt are also preserved in a pergola of early tombstones on the site of the old Presbyterian church.

**GUELPH:** The site of this city, then an unbroken wilderness, was chosen by John Galt in April 1827 as the local headquarters for the Canada Company and was named in honour of the royal family. It contains many fine old stone buildings, among which is the former house (now a private residence) of *John McLean*, the noted explorer and author, who discovered the Grand Falls of the Hamilton River in Labrador in 1839. The former residence of Col. *JOHN McCRAE*, author of "In Flanders Fields" is still in use as a private home and the nearby McCrae Memorial Gardens honour one of Guelph's most illustrious sons.

**PARIS:** Originally known as the Forks of the Grand, it was founded by an intrepid pioneer, Hiram Capron, who settled there in 1829. His energy and leadership in building mills, constructing roads, laying out a town site, developing the local deposits of gypsum and manufacturing plaster of paris won him the sobriquet of "*KING*" *CAPRON*. The nearby West Dumfries Chapel, more commonly known as the *PARIS PLAINS CHURCH*, erected in 1845, is a fine example of a unique type of cobblestone construction used locally by early builders.

**FERGUS:** Founded by Adam Fergusson and James Webster in 1833, it was originally settled largely by lowland Scots and, like Perth in eastern Ontario, it has many of the fine, unadorned, rectangular stone buildings which they seemed to have preferred. In Fergus is the grave of *GEORGE CLEPHANE* to whose untimely death, far from home, his sister, Elizabeth, is believed to refer in her famous hymn which begins "There were ninety and nine that safely lay in the shelter of the fold; but one was out on the hills away, far off from the gates of gold".



John McLean's House





Elora Gorge

**THE COVERED BRIDGE:** At West Montrose near Elmira is the last covered bridge in Ontario. Once a landmark of our countryside, their roofs were intended to protect the supports and flooring against decay caused by rain.



The Covered Bridge

**WATERLOO COUNTY**—This fertile and long-settled county still retains much of the distinctive atmosphere imparted to it by the German speaking pioneers who first settled there. Joseph Sherk and Samuel Betzner, Mennonites from Pennsylvania, are believed to have been the first two European settlers. They came in 1800 and were soon followed by many others of their faith of German and Swiss extraction. Amish Mennonites, whose descendants are still noted for their distinctive dress, settled in considerable numbers in Wilmot Township and, commencing in 1825, many Lutherans and Roman Catholics emigrated directly from Germany. To those who are interested in fine examples of early 19th century houses, inns and barns, a visit to the smaller centres in Waterloo County is well worth while. These communities include Blair, Conestogo, St. Agatha, Bridgeport, New Hamburg, Preston, Heidelberg, Petersburg and many others.





Pioneer Tower

**KITCHENER:** Joseph Schneider was the first definitely recorded settler on the site of Kitchener, but the Mennonite bishop, Benjamin Eby, a well-loved leader of his people, is generally considered to be the true founder of the town. It was first known as Sand Hills or Ebytown, later as Berlin, and received its present title in 1916. Among places of historical interest in Kitchener is "*WOODSIDE*", the boyhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King, former Prime Minister of Canada.



Waterloo School House

**DOON:** In the vicinity of Doon, there is much to appeal to the historically-minded visitor. Across the Grand River soars the stone *PIONEER MEMORIAL TOWER* which commemorates the county's first settlers. Just to the north is the former home and studio of *HOMER WATSON*, the Canadian landscape artist. An ambitious project is now under way involving the erection of a typical early 19th century Upper Canadian village. The first building erected was a pioneer barn and on the seventy-acre tract, it is hoped to put up a log cabin, early school, inn, blacksmith shop, grist-mill, church and so on. In this endeavour, the Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation is being assisted by the Grand River Conservation Authority.



Woodside

**WATERLOO:** In the municipal park is a plaque commemorating Abraham Erb, the founder of that community who settled there in 1806 and two years later built its first saw-mill. In this park there is also the log cabin which is believed to be the oldest remaining school building in the province.

**ST. GEORGE:** Near this village is the farmhouse which was the birthplace of Mrs. Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, internationally famous as the founder of the Women's Institutes.



# Thames Valley Region

AS early as 1792 Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe had attempted unsuccessfully to convince his superiors that the capital of Upper Canada should be established at the Forks of the Thames. It was partly for this reason that he authorized the construction of the "Governor's Road" or "Dundas Street" from the head of Lake Ontario to the site of London. However, settlement in the region was slight until the late 1820's.



London Court House

**LONDON:** In 1826 the judicial and administrative centre of the London District was transferred here from Vittoria. London's impressive *COURT HOUSE*, one of the province's first castellated structures, was completed in 1831 and under the influence of the redoubtable Col. Thomas Talbot was patterned after Malahide Castle, his family seat in Ireland. "Eldon House," built in the early 1830's, is believed to be the city's oldest remaining residence. Other historic structures include "The Pines," former residence of Bishop Benjamin Cronyn, and "Headley," former home of Sir Adam Beck, the founder of Ontario's public hydro-electric system. (The latter three structures are at present all privately owned).

**PIONEER VILLAGE:** In Fanshawe Park a series of structures are being erected which will simulate a local pioneer community of the early 19th century. It is planned to portray pioneer industries and crafts, as well as residences, fences and barns. This project is being carried out under the direction of the Upper Thames Region Conservation Authority.

**WOODSTOCK:** This community was founded largely through the efforts of Admiral Henry Vansittart and his agent, Captain Andrew Drew, R.N. The latter became famous during the Rebellion of 1837-8 for his capture and destruction of the American steamer "Caroline" which was being used by Mackenzie's rebels to transport supplies to Navy Island in the Niagara River. *ST. PAUL'S CHURCH*, whose erection was financed in 1834 by Vansittart, is well worth a visit by the historically minded. Dating back to the birth of the community, it contains plaques commemorating many of the pioneers of the district. It was used at one time to house some of Mackenzie's supporters taken into custody during the Rebellion. Another fine historic structure is the old *CITY HALL* built 1852-53, and patterned after the town hall of Woodstock, in Oxfordshire, England. The Oxford County Museum is now housed in this building.



Old St. Paul's Church



**INGERSOLL:** Oxford County has long been famous for its fine cheese and a plaque in Ingersoll commemorates this province's first cheese factory which was completed in 1864.



Oxford County Museum

**FAIRFIELD:** Beside highway #2 about three miles east of Thamesville is the site of one of the earliest attempts at settlement along the Thames. In 1792 the Moravian missionaries brought their Delaware Indian converts from the United States and established a successful and peaceful agricultural settlement. However, in 1813 a force commanded by the American general, William Harrison, burned and completely destroyed it. A cairn commemorates the site and the outlines of many of the original buildings have been marked with stones. After its destruction, the Indians moved to the other side of the river where they established New Fairfield. Their descendants still dwell here and an attractive little church, completed in 1848, may still be seen.

**BATTLE OF THE THAMES AND DEATH OF TECUMSEH:** About two miles down river from the site of Old Fairfield the important Battle of the Thames (Moraviantown) took place on October 5, 1813. Here, a force of British and Canadian troops under Col. Henry Procter and a contingent of Indians under Tecumseh, who were retreating up the Thames, were overtaken and defeated by an American army commanded by General William Harrison. Probably the most serious result of this encounter was the death of the great Shawnee chief, Tecumseh, who had held the Indian allies together under his leadership and had fought in many bitter struggles against invading forces of the United States.



Moravian Church



# Lake Huron Region and the Huron Tract

**T**HE region now comprised in the counties of Huron, Bruce, Grey, Dufferin and Perth was settled in comparatively recent times and escaped involvement in the War of 1812 and other events connected with the birth of the province. Huron and parts of adjoining counties known as the Huron Tract were the scene of the province's greatest scheme of private colonization. The *CANADA COMPANY* was formed in 1824 on the initiative of *JOHN GALT*, the Scottish author who became its first Canadian superintendent in 1827.

Until about the middle of the 19th century, Grey and Bruce were still largely inhabited by Mississauga and Ojibwa Indians whose descendants still dwell on reserves such as that of *CAPE CROKER*. Their predecessors in the early French period were the Petuns or Tobacco Nation which was dispersed by the Iroquois in 1650.



"Tiger" Dunlop

**"TIGER" DUNLOP:** One of Upper Canada's most colourful figures was Dr. William Dunlop, physician, soldier, woodsman and raconteur. He fought in the War of 1812, assisted Galt in opening up the Huron Tract and obtained literary recognition for his books and satirical articles. His tomb may be seen near Goderich.

**GODERICH AND THE HURON ROAD:** This community was founded for the Canada Company by Dunlop in 1827. It was connected to Guelph by the Huron Road which opened up this region to colonization. Sebastien Fryfogel, believed to be the first settler in what is now Perth county, operated Fryfogel's Inn on the road. It became a pioneer stopping place for emigrants in the Huron Tract and is mentioned in travellers' accounts.

**OWEN SOUND AND THE GARAFRAXA ROAD:** This road, first surveyed by Charles Rankin, P.L.S., in 1837, but not opened up until the early 1840's, was one of the province's earliest colonization roads. Running from Arthur through the Queen's Bush, it struck Georgian Bay at the site of Owen Sound which was at first called Sydenham. At that time its only inhabitants were a band of Ojibwa headed by the friendly chief, Newash.

**"THE OLD FORT":** The picturesque ruins of this stone building on the Main Station Island near Oliphant mark all that remains of a pioneer fishing establishment set up there in the early 1830's by Capt. Alexander MacGregor.



"The Old Fort"



# Lake Erie Region

**SETTLEMENT** along the shores of Lake Erie, particularly in the vicinity of Long Point, commenced during the last decade of the 18th century. Consisting at first of Loyalists, the settlement was increased by the entrance of large numbers of American citizens during the early 1800's. The judicial and administrative centre of the London District, first located at Charlotteville (Turkey Point) close to water communications, was later (1815-25) established at *VITTORIA*. This charming little community has some fine old buildings and retains much of its historic atmosphere. It is, however, impossible to consider the Lake Erie Region without referring to Col. Talbot, its most famous historical figure.

**COL. THOMAS TALBOT**—A member of the Irish nobility, Talbot first came to Canada as a soldier in 1790. He later became a member of Governor Simcoe's staff. In 1794 he returned to Europe and fought with his regiment on the continent. In 1802 he gave up a promising career to return to Upper Canada and pursue the life of a colonizer. He obtained a large grant of land in the Lake Erie Region and settled at Port Talbot in 1803. By a series of unorthodox methods, he acquired the power to control and direct the movement of settlers, and many prosperous communities in the counties of Norfolk, Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford and Kent owe their origin to his colonizing efforts. For almost fifty years he ruled his vast domain in patriarchal style. Eccentric in his dress, short tempered and prejudiced in character, he nevertheless opened up the country in a more successful manner than the government of his time. His former home, now privately owned, still remains near Port Talbot.



The Talbot Residence

**PORT DOVER:** A plaque in this community tells of the devastating raid made on it in 1814 by American military forces. A stone cross marks the site where Dollier and Galinee in March, 1670 erected a wooden cross and claimed the region for the King of France.

**THE BACKHOUSE MILL:** Near Port Rowan is one of the province's most interesting remaining historic structures. This grist-mill, erected in 1798, was in continuous operation until 1955, a longer period than any other mill in the province. It has been acquired by the Big Creek Region Conservation Authority for permanent preservation.



The Backhouse Mill

**ST. THOMAS:** First called Stirling, it was renamed in honour of Col. Thomas Talbot. Of outstanding historical interest is St. Thomas' Church built in 1824 on land donated by a pioneer settler, Daniel Rapelje. Memorial tablets inside the church commemorate many of the early settlers of the region.

**TURKEY POINT:** On the Normandale - St. Williams highway a cairn marks the site of Fort Norfolk, a British military and naval station 1814-15.

**IONA:** The only remaining double-walled earthworks in Canada are situated near Iona.



# The Border Region

**T**HE region now included in the counties of Essex, Kent and Lambton, bordering on the great connecting waterway between Lakes Erie and Huron, has witnessed much history. Many of the famous explorers of the French period passed this way to the interior. During the French regime and until 1796 under the British, the centre of administration was at Detroit. However, a considerable settlement had already sprung up around Sandwich and other points on the south shore.

**FORT MALDEN AND AMHERSTBURG:** This fort was built between 1797 and 1799 for the British garrison which had evacuated Fort Lernoult at Detroit. The village of Amherstburg grew up around it. During the War of 1812 it saw much action. Here, General Isaac Brock met Tecumseh and planned the capture of Detroit. At the naval yard, ships of war were constructed which subsequently met defeat at the Battle of Lake Erie. Late in 1813 Amherstburg was captured by United States forces. They rehabilitated the fort which had been burned by its retreating garrison.

At the end of the War of 1812 the fort was returned to British possession. It continued to be garrisoned by regular troops until 1851 but was not involved in further military action with the exception of an abortive attack by "Patriot" sympathizers in 1838. The remains of the fort's earthworks may still be seen and are preserved in a national historic park. The town of Amherstburg also contains many fine old buildings, among which Christ Church, with its early burial ground, is outstanding.

**BOB-LO ISLAND:** This island in the Detroit River (originally called Bois Blanc) was long a gathering place for Indians and became the site of a Roman Catholic mission during the French regime. After the Rebellion of 1837, three blockhouses were erected as outer defences of Amherstburg. Two of these still exist on their original sites.



Fort Malden Museum

**ELLIOTT'S POINT:** Here the schooner "Anne" commanded by Mackenzie's sympathizers ran aground after bombarding Amherstburg and was captured by local militia. The Point was named after Matthew Elliott, a Loyalist and veteran of the Revolution, deputy superintendent of Indian affairs, and colonel of the 1st Regiment of Essex Militia. The foundation of his house is still visible.

**WINDSOR—The Bâby House:** This fine old brick Georgian residence built about 1811 by François Bâby, member of one of the region's pioneer French families, has been renovated and is now operated as a museum. In 1812 it was used as the headquarters of an invading American army led by Brigadier-General William Hull. In 1838 a force from Detroit composed of persons sympathizing with William Lyon Mackenzie fought a battle nearby with local militia.

**THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY:** Windsor was one of the important terminals on the escape route used by American negroes before the Civil War. A plaque on Ouelette Avenue commemorates this fact.



Bâby House



**CHATHAM:** In May 1858 *JOHN BROWN*, the famous American abolitionist, held a convention in the First Baptist Church. Although radically altered, this church still stands. The abortive raid on Harper's Ferry Virginia is believed to have been planned there.

**PETROLIA:** Canada's oil and gas industry was born in Lambton County. It is believed that the world's first production and refining of oil on a full commercial basis took place at Oil Springs in 1858. This enterprise was directed by James Miller Williams.

**BALDOON SETTLEMENT:** In 1804 Lord Selkirk, best known for his Red River Colony, commenced an equally unsuccessful attempt to establish a colony of Scottish emigrants on the Chenal Ecarté near Wallaceburg. A plaque at the Baldoon school records this venture.



"Uncle Tom's House"

**DRESDEN:** Nearby is the grave and home of Josiah Henson, an escaped slave on whose life Harriet Beecher Stowe is believed to have modelled Uncle Tom in her famous novel "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

**MOORETOWN:** A plaque commemorates the site of Old Trinity, the area's pioneer Anglican church.

## Head of Lake Ontario Region

**I**N September 1669 the famous explorer La Salle entered what is now known as Hamilton Bay and the area was traversed frequently during the French regime. However, the first permanent settlers in the region are believed to have been the United Empire Loyalists, Robert Land and Richard Beasley, in the early 1780's. The Bay and the marshy waterway known as Coote's Paradise led to the ancient Indian portage to the Thames Valley. In the 1790's Governor Simcoe used his Queen's Rangers to lay out one of the province's first roads from the head of the Bay to the future site of London. Along this "Governor's Road", Ancaster and Dundas were established, and the opening of the Burlington Canal in 1826 and the Desjardins Canal in 1837 largely stimulated their growth. Indeed, until the railway era, they were the industrial centres of the district. Today they still contain many fine old stone buildings dating back to the last century.



Brant Museum

**BRANT'S HOME:** At Burlington, originally known as Wellington Square, Chief Joseph Brant received an extensive grant of land in the late 18th century. Here he built an attractive Georgian-type frame residence and spent the final years of his life. A reconstructed version of this building has been erected on the original site and is operated as a museum.





**DUNDURN CASTLE**—One of Hamilton's most important historic sites is the impressive mansion constructed by Allan Napier MacNab 1832-35. A veteran of the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837, he was prime minister of the Province of Canada 1854-56. It is now preserved as a museum.

**FIRST PAPER MILL:** On Spencer Creek about three miles from Dundas lie the picturesque ruins of an old grist-mill acquired in 1813 by the Hon. James Crooks. One of the province's early industrialists, he built a series of mills around the adjacent falls forming a community known as Crooks' Hollow. The most famous of these was the first paper mill in Upper Canada, erected in 1826.

**BURLINGTON HEIGHTS:** The lofty ridge at the approach to the great industrial city of Hamilton was frequently used as the headquarters of British and Canadian forces operating on the Niagara frontier during the War of 1812. A cairn marks the site of fortifications built at that time. Brigadier-General John Vincent withdrew here in 1813, prepared to defend the Heights but this proved unnecessary since Col. John Harvey made a daring and completely successful night attack which drove back the American invaders at Stoney Creek in June 1813.

**OAKVILLE**—Originally known as The Sixteen, Oakville was part of the Mississauga Indian reserve and was not open for settlement until 1827. Its early growth was largely due to the hard work and enthusiasm of an enterprising businessman, William Chisholm. In Lakeside Park are the old Oakville Post Office (1835-1857) and the Thomas farmhouse annex (1829) which are being preserved as museums.





# Toronto (York)

**A**LTHOUGH it is now the great metropolitan centre of Ontario, Toronto was at first over-shadowed by such communities as Kingston and Niagara-on-the-Lake. Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe moved his headquarters here in 1793 attracted by its good harbour, its comparative remoteness from the United States frontier and its communication via the Toronto Portage with the upper Great Lakes. At the time of his arrival, the only European resident was an enterprising trader, *JEAN BAPTISTE ROUSSEAU*. However, during the French regime there had been three successive posts established in the area. The site of the latest of these, Fort Rouillé (1750-59), is now marked by an obelisk at the foot of Dufferin Street in the Canadian National Exhibition grounds.



Fort York

**G**OVERNOR Simcoe erected a military post here on his arrival at York. In April, 1813 an American fleet commanded by Commodore Isaac Chauncey landed a military force near

York under the general command of Major-General Henry Dearborn. In spite of a spirited resistance by a small British and Canadian contingent, York was captured and most of the public buildings were destroyed. During the engagement many of the invaders including Brigadier-General Zebulon Pike, who commanded the landing force, were killed by an explosion in the fort's powder magazine. By 1816 the establishment was considerably expanded and surrounded by extensive earthworks. Fort York was garrisoned by regular troops until the erection of the New Fort Barracks (Stanley Barracks). Fort York is now operated as a historical museum.







**Stanley Barracks**

**STANLEY BARRACKS:** The “New Fort”, completed in 1841, originally consisted of a series of stone buildings grouped around a parade square. In 1893 it received its present name in honour of Lord Frederick Stanley, Governor General of Canada (1888-1893). The one building of the establishment which still remains was originally the Officers’ Quarters and is being preserved as a marine museum.

**THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS OF ONTARIO**—An impressive group of buildings in Queen’s Park, built 1886-92 in the Romanesque style, house Ontario’s legislature.

**SCADDING CABIN:** In the Canadian National Exhibition grounds stands a log cabin originally the home of John Scadding who came to Upper Canada with Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe. The oldest remaining house in Toronto, it was erected in 1794 on the banks of the Don and moved to its present site in 1879.



**Scadding Cabin**

**CASA LOMA**—Although it somewhat resembles a medieval European castle, this imposing edifice was built in 1910 by Sir Henry Pellatt, a wealthy citizen of Toronto who poured large sums of money into the project. Today it is operated as a tourist attraction and convention centre.



**Colborne Lodge**

**COLBORNE LODGE:** This was built in 1836 by John Howard (1803-90) and named after Sir John Colborne, Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada. Howard, an architect, was Toronto’s first city surveyor and engineer. He donated a portion of the land now included in High Park to the city.





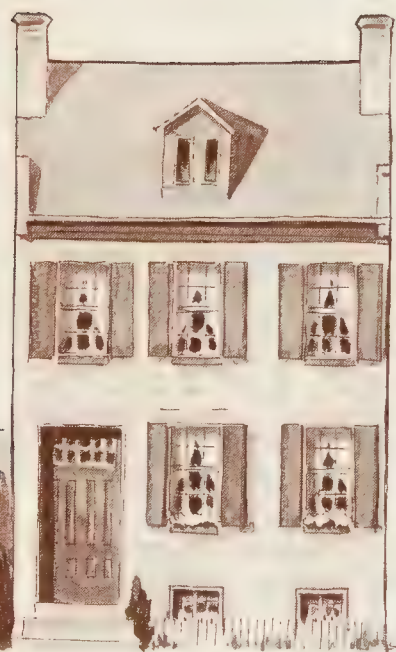
Osgoode Hall

**THE GRANGE:** Erected about 1820, it was formerly the home of the Boultons of Family Compact fame and later of the well-known journalist and historian, Goldwin Smith. It now forms part of the building occupied by The Art Gallery of Toronto.

**OSGOODE HALL:** The oldest section of this splendid example of the province's early public architecture was erected 1829-32 as a meeting-place for the Law Society of Upper Canada. Osgoode Hall has been reconstructed and expanded at various times, notably 1857-60. It now houses the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Ontario, as well as judges' chambers and offices of the Law Society.

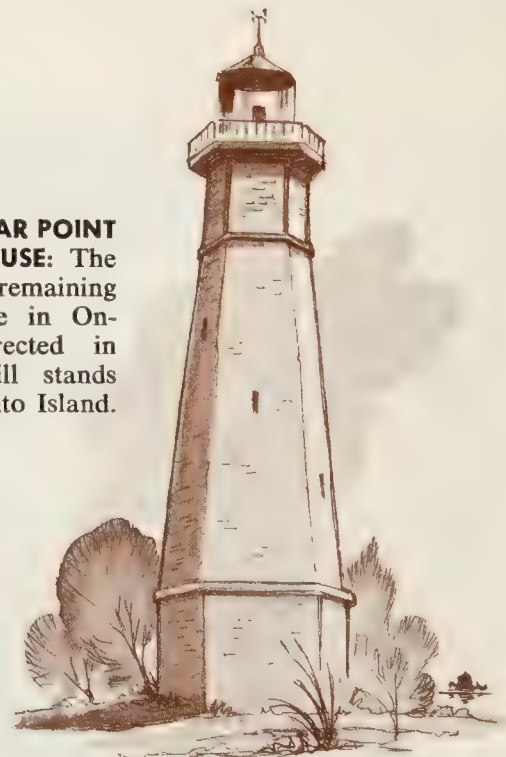


The Grange



**MACKENZIE HOUSE:** This home was presented to William Lyon Mackenzie by his admirers after his return from exile in the United States where he fled after his ill-fated Rebellion of 1837. Mackenzie, who in 1834 had been Toronto's first mayor, spent his declining years here until his death in 1861. The house is now preserved as a museum.

**GIBRALTAR POINT LIGHTHOUSE:** The earliest remaining lighthouse in Ontario, erected in 1808, still stands on Toronto Island.





**PIONEER BARN AND VILLAGE:** In the Dalziel Conservation Area a magnificent squared timber barn, erected in 1809 by Johannes Schmidt, has been preserved and is operated as a museum. In the same area, the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority has commenced work on the construction of the Edgeley Pioneer Village to which several early 19th century structures are being moved.



## Yonge Street Region

**FROM** York to the southern arm of Lake Simcoe near the present Holland Landing lay the Toronto Portage, a route used by the Indians from earliest times and by Etienne Brulé, La Salle and many others during the French regime. From Lake Simcoe other routes via the Nottawasaga and Severn Rivers led to Georgian Bay. Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe laid out a rough road paralleling this route in 1794. In the 1820's it became a stage coach route and in 1847 was macadamized. Named after Sir George Yonge, Secretary of State for War (1782-94), the original route coincides roughly with the modern #11 highway.

**THE QUAKER MEETING HOUSE:** The land for this religious edifice near Newmarket was donated by Asa Rogers in 1807. He was one of a group of the Society of Friends who had received an extensive grant of land along Yonge Street in 1800. Their meeting house was constructed between 1810 and 1812 and is still in an excellent state of preservation.



Quaker Meeting House

**BEETON:** Here a plaque commemorates David Allanson Jones, the founder of Canada's commercial bee-keeping industry.





Sharon Temple

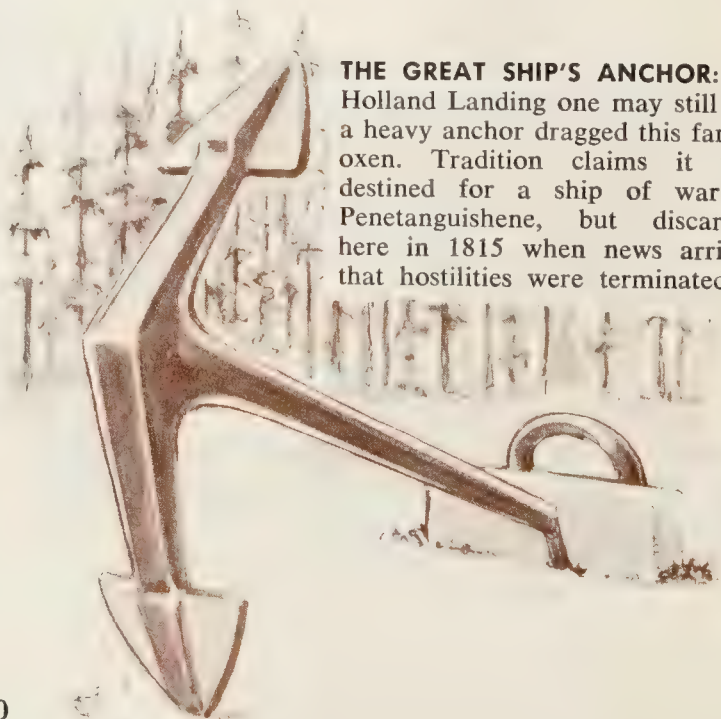
**THE BERCZY AND DE PUISAYE SETTLEMENTS:** In 1798 some forty exiled French Royalists under the leadership of Joseph-Genevieve *COMTE de PUISAYE* (1754-1817) emigrated to Upper Canada. The following year they were settled along Yonge Street in the townships of Markham and Vaughan. However, these members of the nobility were unable to adapt themselves to a pioneer existence and their settlement, known as "Windham", was largely abandoned by 1806. A plaque at St. John's Church, Markham, marks the site. A more successful attempt at settlement was made by William von Moll *BERCZY*, (1748-1813). He led a group of emigrants who had originally come from Germany to New York State, but who settled in Markham in 1794. They and their descendants laid the foundation for the growth of his area.

**BONDHEAD:** Plaques in this village commemorate two famous persons who were born there. *SIR WILLIAM OSLER* (1849-1919) was an internationally renowned physician who is recognized as the father of clinical medicine. *SIR WILLIAM MULLOCK* (1843-1944) was Postmaster General in the Laurier cabinet, Chancellor of the University of Toronto and Chief Justice of Ontario.

**SHARON TEMPLE:** At Sharon, east of Holland Landing, is a well preserved structure of unique architectural design. It was built as a place of worship by a religious sect, the Children of Peace. Its followers were also known as Davidites after their leader, David Willson, who supervised the construction of the temple in 1825-32. The building is now preserved as a museum. Adjacent to the temple is the former home (built in 1819) of Ebenezer Doan, the master builder of the temple. An early type of settler's log cabin is also situated on the property.

**THE SCOTCH SETTLEMENT:** In front of the "Auld Kirk" (lot 6, concession 8, West Gwillimbury Township) near Bradford, a plaque commemorates a group of Lord Selkirk's Scottish settlers who fled the disturbances in the Red River Colony. Commencing in 1819, they took up land in this vicinity.

**SIBBALD HOUSE:** This fine old house, once known as Eildon Hall, was built before 1835. From that date until 1856 it was the home of Mrs. Susan Sibbald (1783-1866) whose Memoirs, published by her great grandson, give an interesting picture of upper class life in England and Canada. The home is now preserved as a museum in Sibbald Point Provincial Park, near Sutton.



**THE GREAT SHIP'S ANCHOR:** At Holland Landing one may still see a heavy anchor dragged this far by oxen. Tradition claims it was destined for a ship of war at Penetanguishene, but discarded here in 1815 when news arrived that hostilities were terminated.





"Indian Village", Midland

# Huron

**T**HIS region lying roughly between Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching and Georgian Bay was, during the early 17th century, the home of the Hurons, a populous nation of Iroquoian stock. Like their ethnic brethren, the Five Nations Iroquois of northern New York, and unlike the nomadic Algonkian tribes of the north, they lived in semi-permanent palisaded villages and cultivated Indian corn.

In the winter of 1610-11 a young Frenchman, Etienne Brulé, was sent by Samuel de Champlain to live with the Hurons to learn their language and customs. The Father of New France himself visited Huronia in 1615 and the Hurons became firm allies of the French. Huronia was the scene of determined and heroic attempts by two religious orders to proselytize the Indians. At first the Recollets, and from 1626-1650 the Jesuits, achieved considerable success in spite of undergoing great privation and suffering. Missions were established throughout Huronia and by the 1640's there were more French living there than anywhere in North America, apart from the immediate Montreal-Quebec area.

However, in 1649-50 the Five Nations, supplied with fire-arms by the Dutch, overwhelmed and dispersed the Hurons. From that date until the 19th century the area was inhabited only by wandering tribes of Algonkian origin. At the end of the War of 1812, a naval base was established at Penetanguishene, and commencing in the 1820's European settlers poured into the region. Today Huronia is dotted with the remains of numerous aboriginal sites.

**THE RECONSTRUCTED HURON VILLAGE**—In Little Lake Park, Midland, is a full-scale replica of a typical 17th century Huron village. It is surrounded by timber palisades, lined with firing platforms and contains longhouses, food storage pits and drying scaffolds. A visit to this authentic reproduction is essential for anyone interested in fully visualizing the Huron life and economy of those times.



Fort Ste. Marie

**STE. MARIE I:** Near Midland are the partly reconstructed remains of the headquarters of the Jesuit missions in Huronia 1639-49. Fortified with stone bastions and surrounded by a stockade, Ste. Marie at one time housed more than fifty Europeans and included a chapel, residences, stables and a hospital. Following the dispersal of the Hurons by the Iroquois, this most westerly outpost of white civilization was burned by the missionaries and abandoned in June, 1649. The Jesuits remained for one more year on Christian Island where they constructed Ste. Marie II. However, this was also abandoned and in 1650, with a few of their Huron converts, they departed for Quebec.



**ST. LOUIS AND ST. IGNACE II:** In the township of Tay south of highway #2 lie two sites which have great religious and historic significance. The remains of the Huron village of St. Louis are situated south of Victoria Harbour on the Hogg River, while St. Ignace II is on the Sturgeon River south of Wau-  
baushene. They were both captured by a strong Iroquois force on March 16, 1649. Father Jean de Brebeuf and Father Gabriel Lalemant were captured at St. Louis and taken to St. Ignace where they were killed after undergoing the most horrible torture with heroic fortitude. These Jesuit missionaries were canonized in 1930.

**COWAN'S TRADING POST:** On the east side of Matchedash Bay in Tay township a plaque marks the site of a post established about 1778 by an independent fur trader, George Cowan. It was visited by Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe in 1793.



St. James-on-the-Lines



Officers' Quarters, Penetanguishene

**PENETANGUISHENE:** At the end of the War of 1812 a *NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT* was built on the shores of Penetanguishene Bay. It became the headquarters of the British naval forces operating on the upper Great Lakes. In order to stimulate its communication with York, Dr. William "Tiger" Dunlop in 1814 laid out Huronia's first highway, the *PENETANGUISHENE ROAD*, which ran from Kempenfelt Bay to the naval Base. In 1828, the British military force on Drummond Island, which had been ceded to the United States, was transferred to Penetang. The following year construction of permanent quarters for the army contingent commenced slightly down the bay from the naval quarters. The only structure remaining intact of these two extensive posts is the military Officers' Quarters. This stone building is in excellent condition and is preserved as a museum. In the vicinity may be seen the foundations of many of the original buildings, including that once occupied by Admiral Henry Wolseley *BAYFIELD*, R.N., famous for his arduous pioneer charting of the Great Lakes.

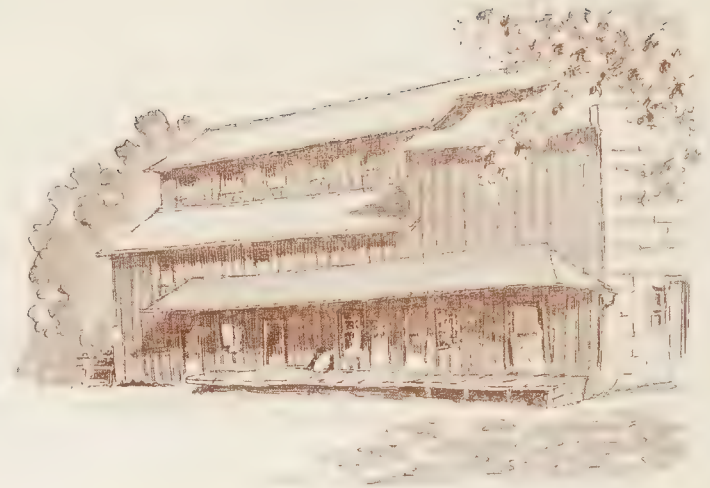
**ST. JAMES-ON-THE-LINES:** This garrison church was erected 1836-38 on the road between the townsite of Penetang and the military and naval establishments. It remains in good physical condition. The carving on the pews was done by members of the armed forces and the wide centre aisle once allowed companies of soldiers to march in four abreast.



**COLDWATER:** In 1830 Sir John Colborne gathered the nomadic Indians of the Georgian Bay area onto a reserve stretching from the site of Orillia to Coldwater. A band of Ojibwa settled in Coldwater under their chief, Aisance, and Thomas Gummersall Anderson, the Indian superintendent, established his headquarters here. However, in the late 1830's, pressure from white settlers induced the Coldwater Indians to move to Beausoleil Island. A grist-mill was completed in Coldwater with Indian funds in 1833. This mill, which has been in continuous operation for over 125 years, still stands.

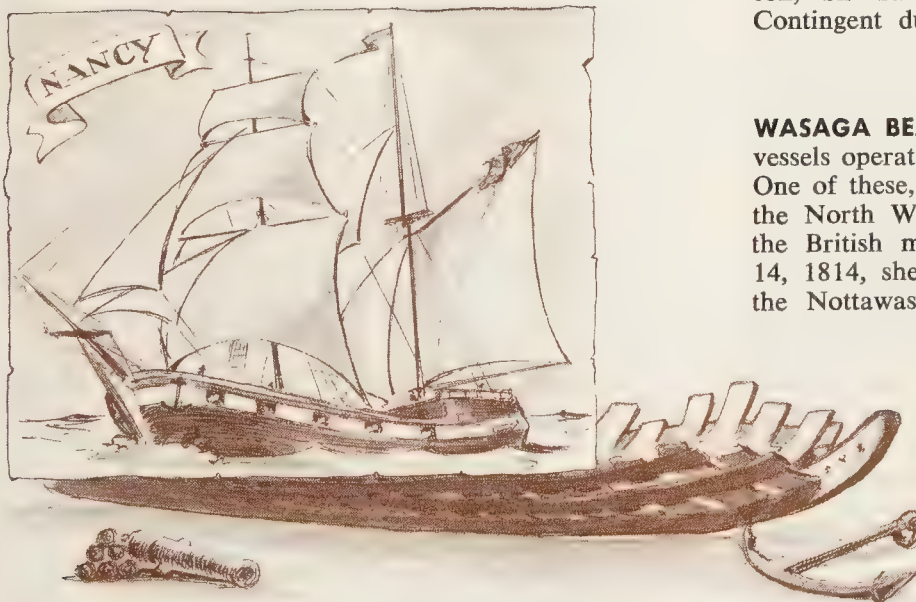
**ORO NEGRO CHURCH:** Near Edgar is a quaint little African Episcopal church, built in 1849, which ministered to a colony of negro settlers established in Oro township in the 1830's. The colony has long since disappeared, but the church has been renovated and preserved.

**ST. THOMAS CHURCH (SHANTY BAY):** This Anglican church, built about 1839, ministered to the settlers, including many half-pay officers, in the Shanty Bay-Hawkestone area. It is of unusual architectural interest since it was constructed entirely of mud and straw trampled into bricks by oxen.



**Coldwater Mill**

**CAPTAIN ELMES STEELE:** At Fairvalley in Medonte township a cairn marks the site of "Purbrook," home of Capt. Elmes Steele, the pioneer settler of the area (1832). His son, Sir Samuel Steele commanded the 2nd Canadian Contingent during the first World War.



**WASAGA BEACH:** During the War of 1812 British naval vessels operated from the mouth of the Nottawasaga River. One of these, the schooner "NANCY," formerly owned by the North West Company, was used to ferry supplies to the British military post at Michilimackinac. On August 14, 1814, she was attacked and sunk, while at anchor in the Nottawasaga, by an American naval squadron. The hulk of the "Nancy" accumulated silt and debris which over the years formed an island. Excavation has since freed the schooner and the hull is enclosed in a shed on the original site.





Brewery Bay

**STEPHEN LEACOCK'S HOME:** Near Orillia at Brewery Bay on Lake Couchiching is the former summer home of the famous Canadian economist, author and humourist, Stephen Leacock. It is now operated as a literary and historical museum.

**BARRIE:** From the head of the Kempenfelt Bay on Lake Simcoe an ancient Indian route known as the *NINE MILE PORTAGE* ran to Willow Creek and thence via the Nottawasaga River to Georgian Bay. In the winter of 1813-14 a force under Lieutenant-Colonel Robert McDouall followed it on their way to relieve a British garrison at Michilimackinac. McDouall stopped at *GLENGARRY LANDING* beside the Nottawasaga near the present site of Edenvale to build the bateaux which would transport his force across the stormy waters of Lake Huron. Following McDouall's trek, the portage was improved into a crude wagon road and for many years goods and men passed over it. At its eastern end storehouses and living quarters were constructed which formed the nucleus of Barrie. At its western terminus near Willow Creek a depot for the forwarding of goods was formed which became known as the *WILLOW FORT*. Long abandoned following the establishment of improved routes of communication, this western terminus is now being preserved as an historic site.

**ORILLIA:** In August, 1615, Champlain stayed for almost two weeks with a band of Hurons at the Narrows between Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching. He noted that this was a favourite place for fishing. In recent times the remains of an ancient fish weir across the Narrows have been discovered. In Champlain Park, Orillia, there is a statue to commemorate this famous explorer which has been acclaimed for its artistry and craftsmanship.

In 1830 the government induced a band of Ojibwa, led by Chief *WILLIAM YELLOWHEAD*, to settle on the site of Orillia. This chief was greatly respected by his own people and the European settlers. However, before the decade had passed he and his band were moved across the lake to Rama and their lands occupied by a rapidly expanding white community.

**COLLINGWOOD:** A plaque commemorates the former home of Mrs. Alfred Watt (1867-1948) who founded the Associated Country Women of the World, the international extension of the Canadian Women's Institutes.



Champlain Monument, Orillia



# The Trent Waterway Region

**B**EFORE the first European settlers arrived in America, Indians frequently travelled from Lake Ontario near the present town of Trenton to Georgian Bay via the Trent and Severn Rivers and the beautiful chain of lakes which formed their head waters. Champlain, with a Huron war party, crossed Lake Simcoe in 1615 and followed this waterway eastward on his way to attack the Iroquois. This route was also used by the Five Nations during their many attacks on Huronia.

As early as 1833 attempts were made to construct a navigable canal which would link Ontario with Georgian Bay. A few small locks on the Trent and Otonabee Rivers and on the Kawartha Lakes were completed before 1860. Supplemented by an extensive series of log slides, they contributed for many years to the flourishing lumber trade of the area. This was the era of the "Timber barons" such as Mossom Boyd. Early in the 20th century a canal was completed for small boats by means of locks from Trenton to the Severn. Two marine railways on the latter stream completed navigation to the Bay. Although never important in a commercial sense, apart from its aid to lumbering, the canal is used by a large and increasing number of pleasure craft.

**THE LITERARY SETTLERS:** The Trent region and particularly the Otonabee area is noted for the number of educated persons who settled there. They underwent many of the hardships of their less learned neighbours, but unlike the latter were able to record their experiences.

Among them were three members of the talented Strickland family who moved to Upper Canada from Reydon Hall, Suffolk, England. *SAMUEL STRICKLAND* came in 1825 and after serving under John Galt with the Canada Company established a farm in the wilderness near Lakefield. He was also active in the lumber business and wrote "Twenty-seven Years in Canada West." His sister, *SUSANNA MOODIE*, settled near him and recorded her less successful attempts at pioneer existence in "Roughing it in the Bush." Another sister, *CATHARINE PARR TRAILL*, took up land with her husband, Capt. Thomas Traill, in Douro township in 1832. Her book "The Backwoods of Canada" gives an extremely valuable picture of pioneer life and customs in the Otonabee region.

*JOHN LANGTON*, later auditor general of Canada and his sister, Anne, who settled near Fenelon Falls and erected Blythe House, have also left interesting accounts of the district. Other authors of the Trent region include Mrs. *FRANCES STEWART* of Otonabee township and *THOMAS NEED* of Bobcaygeon. The famous Canadian poet, *ARCHIBALD LAMPMAN*, lived for a time near Gore's Landing on Rice Lake.



The Serpent Mound



"Strickland Church"

**LAKEFIELD:** In this village is "Westove," the residence of Catharine Parr Traill during her later years. It is now privately owned. A charming little stone church built in 1853 through the efforts of Samuel Strickland stands on the main street and in its churchyard lie the remains of Strickland and other early settlers of the region.

**THE SERPENT MOUND:** This remarkable prehistoric site is on the shores of Rice Lake about two miles south of Keene. Constructed of earth in the form of a gigantic serpent, it is the only known example of its type in Canada. Archaeologists are investigating the site, but no final conclusion regarding its origin has been reached. However, it is considered possible that it was constructed by the Hopewellians, a race of aboriginals who inhabited parts of this continent about 2,000 years ago. The land surrounding it is now operated as a provincial park.





Peterborough Court House

**PETERBOROUGH:** This city's establishment can be traced back to 1820 when *ADAM SCOTT* (1796-1838) built a crude sawmill and grist-mill on the site. However, its true growth commenced in 1825 when the British government sponsored a settlement of Irish emigrants in the Newcastle District. *PETER ROBINSON*, later the province's commissioner of Crown lands, was appointed superintendent and ultimately placed 1,878 settlers on land in this area. Peterborough became the headquarters of the colony.

Among structures of particular historical interest in Peterborough are its first stone house, erected in 1838 on Brock Street, and the magnificent *COURT-HOUSE AND JAIL* building which was completed 1840-42 after the community had been chosen as the administrative centre of the old Colborne District. The stone house was built by the citizens of Peterborough as a residence for a much-admired physician, Dr. John Hutchinson.

**FENELON FALLS:** Plaques in this village will commemorate John Langton as well as the community's founder, James Wallis (1806-1883). The latter purchased property here in 1833 and the following year in partnership with Robert Jameson constructed a sawmill around which the community grew. The former home of James Wallis, "Maryboro Lodge," still stands.

**LINDSAY:** A plaque commemorates William Purdy who, in 1828-30, built a sawmill and grist-mill which formed the nucleus of this town on the Scugog River. Like many other settlements of the Trent region, Lindsay's early growth was founded on lumbering and sawmills.

**BOBCAYGEON:** The founder of this community was Thomas Need who published a book dealing with his experiences during the 1830's entitled "Six Years in the Bush." Later Mossom Boyd, one of the great timber operators of the district, made Bobcaygeon his headquarters. Boyd's massive residence there still exists. It is privately owned.

**THE PETERBOROUGH PETROGLYPHS:** About four miles northwest of the eastern end of Stoney Lake (lot 10, concession 11, South Burleigh township), there is an important group of rock carvings which has been described as "a major contribution to prehistoric art in North America." The carvings include birds, beasts and human beings. Their origin is not known and estimates of their age vary from 500 to 3,500 years. The carvings, situated some distance from the highway, have been designated as a provincial archaeological site.



"The Stone House"



# Muskoka and Haliburton

**N**ORTH of Lake Simcoe and the Trent waterway in the beautiful Laurentian Shield area are the districts of Muskoka and Haliburton. Their rocky surface delayed early settlement but between 1819-37 a series of exploring expeditions passed through the area. A plaque at Baysville commemorates the explorers. In the 1850's and 1860's "colonization roads" were thrust northward in an attempt to open up the region. They were a great aid in the extensive lumber operations which took place there during the latter half of the 19th century. One of the earliest routes was the *MUSKOKA ROAD* which ran from the site of Wabigoon to the site of Bracebridge.

The picturesque Muskoka Lakes provided another entrance into the interior and the construction of the *PORT CARLING LOCKS* 1869-71 greatly facilitated navigation. One of Haliburton's oldest remaining structures is the privately owned log residence at Minden known as the *CLERGY HOUSE*. Originally erected as a lumbering depot, it served at the beginning of this century as headquarters for Anglican missionaries who ministered to the surrounding area.

## Central Lake Ontario Region

**T**HIS region comprises a large part of the old Newcastle District, now the counties of Northumberland and Durham, as well as the adjoining county of Ontario. In the last half of the 17th century, the Five Nations Iroquois established villages along the north shore of Lake Ontario, including one in the vicinity of Port Hope. The Sulpician missionaries, Fenelon and d'Urfe, stayed there during the winter of 1669-70. European settlement in this region began in the 1790's with the arrival of United Empire Loyalists and other persons, most of whom were of British origin.

**OSHAWA:** The rapid growth of this community may be said to have started when Robert McLaughlin moved his carriage works here in 1876. However, as early as 1804 William Farewell had settled in the vicinity and at the end of the War of 1812, erected a sawmill and grist-mill. Another enterprising pioneer industrialist was J. B. Warren who constructed a grist-mill on Oshawa Creek in 1837. The village was known as Skae's Corners until 1840.



The Barnum House

**BOWMANVILLE:** A plaque in front of the public library commemorates Col. Robert McCullough, one of the founders of the Canadian Club movement.

**THE BARNUM HOUSE:** At the western approaches to the village of Grafton is the house built in 1817 by Col. Eliakim Barnum who had emigrated to Upper Canada from Vermont in 1808. This white frame structure, which is being preserved as an historical museum, is considered to be one of the province's finest remaining examples of domestic Georgian architecture.





Victoria Hall

**COBOURG:** In this town is *VICTORIA HALL*, one of the province's finest remaining examples of mid-Victorian public architecture. Completed in 1860, it was officially opened by the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) and named after his mother. Its ornate court-room and auditorium remain unaltered and are well worth a visit by those interested in period architecture and furnishings. *VICTORIA COLLEGE*, now associated with the University of Toronto in Ontario's capital, was originally situated in Cobourg. The building in which it was housed, erected in 1836, still exists there and forms part of the Ontario Hospital.

An historical plaque in the municipal park commemorates *WILLIAM WELLER* (1788-1863), the province's leading stage coach operator. This colourful method of transportation reached its peak during the 1830's and 1840's before it was superseded by the railroads.

**PRESQU'ILE POINT:** The townsite of a district "capital" for the old Newcastle District was originally laid out on this peninsula which juts out into Lake Ontario. In 1804 a trial for murder was scheduled to take place there and the prisoner, judges, prosecutor and witnesses set sail from York on the schooner "Speedy." After being sighted off Presqu'ile she vanished forever. The loss of her prominent passengers, including solicitor-general Robert Gray, was a severe blow to the little colony. Shortly thereafter, the district headquarters was moved to Amherst on the mainland. Large portions of this point are now being preserved as a provincial park.

**NEWCASTLE:** At the mouth of Baldwin's Creek (Wilmot's Creek) near Newcastle is the site of the homestead where Robert Baldwin, Sr., (1741-1816) settled with his family in 1798. His son, Dr. W. W. Baldwin, was a leading reformer in Upper Canada, and his grandson, The Hon. Robert Baldwin, Jr., one of Canada's leading statesmen, became known as the Father of Responsible Government.

**PORT HOPE:** In the late 1770's a fur trader, Peter Smith, was established here. However, it is believed that the first permanent settler in the area was Mydert Harris, a Loyalist who arrived in 1793. The town's most interesting historical structure is the *BLUE STONE HOUSE*, built in the 1830's by John David Smith. This fine Georgian home is privately owned.

**THE WICKLOW CHURCH:** The oldest surviving Baptist church in Ontario is situated beside #2 highway at Wicklow. Erected in 1824, this simple frame building served a congregation organized in 1798 in the townships of Haldimand and Cramahe.



Wicklow Church



# The Bay of Quinte Region

**T**HIS region obtained its name from the Indian village of Kenté (whose exact location is uncertain) where the Sulpicians maintained a mission from 1668-80. Broadly speaking, the district includes the county of Prince Edward and the southern portions of Lennox and Addington and Hastings. It was one of the first areas settled following the American Revolution and the Loyalist influence remained dominant here for several generations. Many of the early settlers had served in such Loyalist corps as the 2nd battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, Jessup's Loyal Rangers and Rogers' Royal Rangers. The district still includes a number of fine old houses, and the attractive combination of verdant cultivated fields sloping down to sheltered bays has changed little during the past century or more.

**THE TYENDINAGA RESERVE:** Although most of the Six Nations Iroquois who had fought for the Crown in the American Revolution settled on the Grand River, a number of the Mohawks, led by Chief John Deserontyon, took up land on the Bay of Quinte. Their descendants still dwell near Deseronto, and a cairn marks the site where the original landing was made in May, 1784. Another plaque at Christ Church on the reserve commemorates *ORON-HYATEKHA* (1841-1907) the famous Mohawk chief, orator and physician who founded the Independent Order of Foresters.

**NAPANEE:** In 1785 the government commissioned Robert Clark, a Loyalist millwright, to build a sawmill and grist-mill here. Erected 1786-87, the grist-mill was the first between Kingston and the Niagara Peninsula. A plaque commemorates these pioneer industries which formed the nucleus of the community.

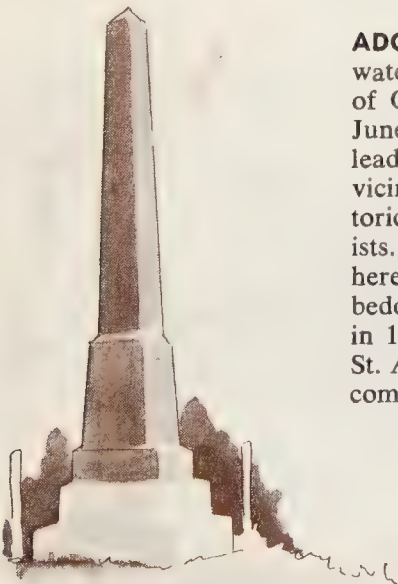
**SIR GILBERT PARKER:** At Camden East, where he was born in 1860, a plaque commemorates this great Canadian historical novelist.

**THE CARRYING PLACE:** Early travellers entering the Quinte region from the west portaged across the narrow peninsula connecting Prince Edward County with the mainland. A cairn commemorates the treaty signed here with the Mississaugas in 1787 by which the land now included in metropolitan Toronto was transferred to the Crown.

**BELLEVILLE:** This town was founded in 1790 by Capt. John Meyers, a Loyalist who erected a grist-mill on the site. Known at first as Meyers' Creek, it was renamed Belleville in 1816 in honour of Arabella, the wife of Lieutenant-Governor Francis Gore.

**GLENORA:** Beside the ferry landing is an old stone mill which utilized water dropping from a little lake situated high on the mountain above it. This attractive and unusual natural feature has been put to use from the early days of settlement, and Peter Van Alstine built Prince Edward's first grist-mill here in the 1790's.

**ADOLPHUSTOWN:** This little settlement nestled beside the sheltered waters of Adolphustown Reach has been called the Plymouth Rock of Ontario. Here, at Hagerman's Point, there landed from bateaux on June 16, 1784 a small band of United Empire Loyalists under the leadership of Major Peter Van Alstine. The area in the immediate vicinity of the landing place has been set aside as an historic park and a stone obelisk commemorates the Loyalists. The earliest burying ground in the district is situated here and several of the early gravestones have been embedded in a memorial wall. An old Loyalist church, erected in 1822, stands nearby and is now used as a parish hall. In St. Albans, a more recent edifice, there are a series of tablets commemorating many of the early Loyalists.







**The White Chapel**

**THE WHITE CHAPEL:** Near Picton is one of the oldest Methodist chapels in the province. Commenced in 1809 on land donated by Stephen Conger, a United Empire Loyalist, it has been maintained as a place of worship for a longer period than any other church of Methodist origin in Ontario. With its gallery at the rear and on two sides and its raised pulpit and sounding board, it is a fine example of pioneer craftsmanship.

**THE WHITE HOUSE:** At Collin's Bay on the north side of highway #33 about ten miles west of Kingston is a house built by one of the district's pioneers, William Fairfield, Sr., in 1793. It is an especially fine example of a well-to-do Loyalist's home. Few houses, particularly as regards their interior arrangements, have retained their original structure so well. It is also unusual in the fact that it has been in the possession of the same family for six generations.

**HAY BAY:** Northeast of Adolphustown on the shores of Hay Bay is Upper Canada's earliest Methodist chapel, built in 1792. An annual commemorative service is still held there by the United Church of Canada. Near this old Hay Bay church a cairn marks the site of the boyhood home of John A. Macdonald who became one of Canada's greatest prime ministers and a Father of Confederation.

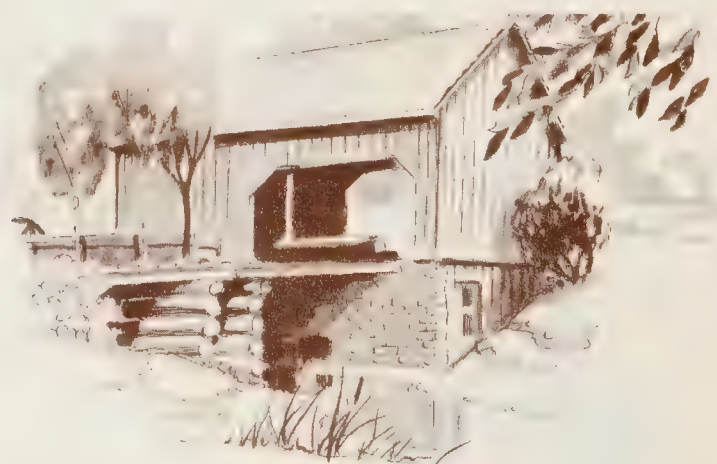
**BATH:** This community, first settled by Loyalists in 1784, was, before the coming of the railroad era, a centre of importance. The first Canadian steamship on Lake Ontario, the "Frontenac," was launched here in 1816. Two privately owned homes are of considerable historical interest. The house built about 1785 by Jephtha Hawley, a Loyalist veteran of Jessup's Corps, is one of the oldest in the province. The Fairfield House, built in 1796 by William Fairfield, Jr., is a splendid example of colonial architecture.



**The White House**

**THE O'HARA MILL:** Situated north of the Quinte region and four miles northwest of Madoc is the O'Hara Mill. This sawmill, built in 1846, has been completely renovated by the Moira River Conservation Authority. The dam and millpond have been reconstructed and historically minded persons visiting this site will be able to study the details of a pioneer industry around which so many of our communities were originally formed.

**ONTARIO'S FIRST GOLD MINE:** A plaque at Eldorado, north of Madoc, commemorates the Richardson mine. Discovered in 1866, it went into production the following year.



**The O'Hara Mill**



# Kingston

**I**N 1673 Governor Frontenac of New France built a stockaded fort at the mouth of the Cataraqui River for the purpose of overawing the Iroquois and controlling the fur trade in the Lake Ontario region. The famous explorer La Salle was appointed commander of the fort and was granted the surrounding territory as a seigniory. In 1689, after Frontenac's temporary recall to France, the post was abandoned, but following his return to the colony, it was re-established in 1695 and strengthened with stone bastions. For the remainder of the French regime, the post, known as Cataraqui or Frontenac, was an important centre for the trans-shipment of supplies for the west. In 1756 it served as a base for Major-General Montcalm's successful attack on Oswego. It was captured in 1758 by British forces commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel John Bradstreet.

Commencing in 1783 it became the headquarters for surveying the surrounding district and for the settlement of substantial numbers of United Empire Loyalists who took up land in the Bay of Quinte region. The immediate area surrounding Cataraqui was settled in large part by a group of Loyalists under the leadership of Capt. Michael Grass. Shortly thereafter, the community was renamed Kingston. For the next half century it was the chief military and naval base of the province, as well as one of its leading towns. It played an important role in the War of 1812 and many large warships were built here although Kingston itself was not the scene of any serious military action. It was incorporated as a city in 1838 and from 1841-44 was the capital of the Province of Canada. Kingston's many fine 19th century limestone buildings give it a distinctive appearance that is quite unlike that of other communities in Ontario.

**THE BISHOP'S PALACE:** The Bishop's Palace, once occupied by the Rt. Rev. Alexander Macdonell, first Roman Catholic Bishop of Kingston, now forms part of Notre Dame Convent.

**TETE DU PONT BARRACKS:** On the parade square of this modern military establishment a portion of the foundation walls of old Fort Frontenac have been unearthed.



**Tete Du Pont Barracks**



**Murney Redoubt**

**THE MURNEY REDOUBT:** This imposing Martello tower in Macdonald Park has walls which, on the water side, are 15 feet thick at the bottom tapering to 12 feet at the top. Its armament included a 32 pounder gun and three 32 pounder carronades. Together with Fort Frederick, the Shoal Tower and Cathcart Tower on Cedar Island, it protected Kingston's harbour against possible attack from enemy warships. The Murney redoubt is now preserved as an historical museum.





Heathfield

**THE CITY HALL:** Completed in 1843, this monumental limestone edifice is one of the province's finest remaining mid-19th century public buildings.

**FORT FREDERICK AND THE STONE FRIGATE:** The area at the tip of the peninsula on which the Royal Military College now stands was reserved for a battery as early as 1788. In 1790-91 a guardroom was constructed for the soldiers sent to protect the naval dockyard which was being established on the peninsula. During the War of 1812 a blockhouse and other works were built. The present Martello tower, together with three similar structures guarding Kingston, was built 1846-51 during the Oregon crisis.

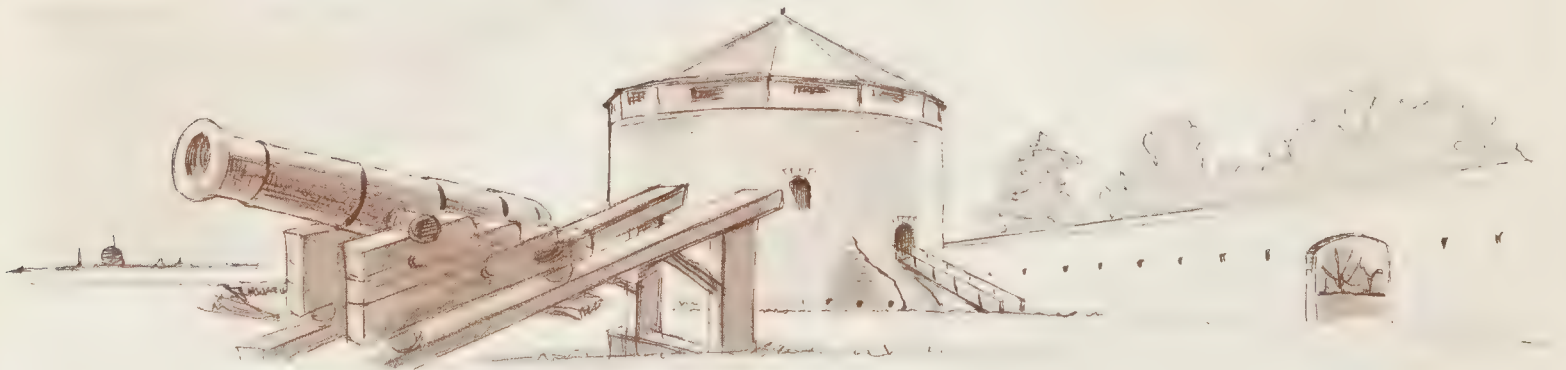
Following the Rush-Bagot Convention of 1817 limiting naval forces on the Great Lakes, a commodious limestone building was constructed 1819-20 to store gear from the fleet. In 1876 this structure, known as the *STONE FRIGATE*, became the dormitory for the first cadets to enter the Royal Military College of Canada. (Permission to enter R.M.C. grounds must be obtained from that institution).

**JOHN A. MACDONALD:** Although one of Canada's greatest historical figures, Macdonald's name is particularly connected with Kingston where he first practised law and which he represented in parliament throughout his political career. Two houses in which the prime minister lived still stand. *HEATHFIELD*, now owned by the Community of the Sisters of Providence and *BELLEVUE* on Centre Street. The office in which he practised law remains on Wellington Street and his grave is in Cataraqui cemetery.



**SUMMERHILL:** On the grounds of Queen's University is a substantial stone building erected in 1839 by George OKill Stuart. A noted scholar, he held the posts of Archdeacon of Kingston and Dean of Ontario. Summerhill later became the first building of Queen's University and is at present the residence of the principal of that institution.

**OTHER HISTORIC HOMES:** There are many privately owned houses in Kingston with interesting historical backgrounds. One of these is *HILLCROFT*, built in 1853, which was at one time the residence of Alexander Campbell who held many cabinet posts and was a life-long friend of John A. Macdonald.



Fort Frederick





**F**ORTIFICATIONS were built on the commanding ridge across the harbour from Kingston during the War of 1812. However, it was not until 1836 that the present redoubt was completed. This was done as part of a larger plan for the defence of the naval dockyard and the entrance to the Rideau Canal. The advance battery and commissariat stores were added in rear of the redoubt in 1841-42. Fort Henry became the most substantial fortification in Upper Canada and from 1812 to 1891 it was garrisoned by detachments from many famous British and Canadian regiments. During the Rebellion of 1837-38 supporters of William Lyon Mackenzie were imprisoned here. A plaque in the fort commemorates *SIR RICHARD BONNYCASTLE* who commanded there during the Rebellion and whose prompt action in mobilizing local militia in the absence of regular troops secured Kingston against possible invasion by rebel sympathizers.

In the 1930's Fort Henry was completely renovated and is today preserved as an historic site. The Fort Henry Guard, dressed in period uniforms, perform infantry and artillery drill during the tourist season and its members have won an international reputation for the authenticity and precision of their performance.





# The Rideau Canal Region

**T**HE construction of the Rideau Canal was financed by the British government on the advice of the Duke of Wellington. It was intended to provide a means of communication between Upper and Lower Canada which would not be as vulnerable to enemy attack as that by the St. Lawrence. Construction took place 1826-32 under the superintendence of Lieutenant-Colonel John By of the Royal Engineers. The completed canal traversed 126 miles of largely wilderness country from Kingston to Bytown (Ottawa). It was one of the great engineering feats of its day. Many of By's Irish emigrant labourers died as a result of the prevalence of a type of malarial fever which was encountered in swampy ground such as that surrounding the great Cranberry Bog. By was also confronted with bursting dams and unforeseen increases in expenditure. Nevertheless, he overcame all difficulties and today the canal is still in operation and caters to an ever-increasing number of pleasure craft.

**PERTH:** This town can trace its origin back to the settlement made under military sponsorship in 1816. The original settlers included discharged veterans of the War of 1812 from such corps as the Glengarry Light Infantry and the De Meuron regiments, as well as a large group of Scottish emigrants. Perth is noted for its many substantial 19th century stone buildings. Like other communities in the region, it benefited from the skills of the Scottish stone masons who, when the Rideau Canal was completed, turned to the construction of private dwellings.

An historical plaque in Perth describes the province's *LAST FATAL DUEL* which was fought there in 1833. Other plaques commemorate two of the town's prominent historical figures: *ALEXANDER MORRIS* (1826-89) who was a member of Macdonald's cabinet and Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, and *MALCOLM CAMERON* (1808-76) who founded Perth's first newspaper and was a member of the Baldwin-Lafontaine administration.



Blockhouse, Merrickville

**MERRICKVILLE:** This early community was founded by William Merrick, a Loyalist who came there in 1793 or 1794 and constructed mills. There are several early private residences in the village including one built by the founder in 1821. However, the village's most prominent structure is a large blockhouse, built in 1832 to protect the adjacent canal locks.

**CHAFFEY'S LOCKS:** This was one of the earlier settlements along the route of the canal. Samuel Chaffey erected a sawmill, grist-mill and distillery here before the canal was built. An attractive old mill building, now used as a private residence, still remains.

**KINGSTON MILLS:** The province's first or second grist-mill was built here near the mouth of the Cataraqui River in the early 1780's. When one is proceeding from the Lake Ontario side, the first locks of the Rideau Canal are encountered here. A picturesque blockhouse, built to guard the canal, still stands and in the adjoining park an historical plaque commemorates Col. By and his waterway.



Kingston Mills



# The St. Lawrence Region

**T**HIS region, lying between Kingston and the Quebec border, was one of the first to be settled after the American Revolution. Its eastern boundary coincided with the limit of the French seigniories which lined the St. Lawrence River further downstream. When veterans of Loyalist military corps such as the 1st battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, the Royal Highland Emigrants and Jessup's Loyal Rangers were disbanded, many of their personnel settled in the newly surveyed townships along the river. There was a tendency to ethnic grouping among the emigrants. Thus, Glengarry and the eastern section of Stormont contained a large majority of Scottish ancestry. The earliest of these came from the Mohawk Valley of New York. Others proceeded directly from Scotland in the 1790's or in the large emigration led by the Rev. Alexander Macdonell in 1804. Many Palatine Germans from the old Province of New York settled in Dundas and western Stormont, while in Leeds and Grenville there was a large percentage of settlers of English ancestry.

As was inevitable with only the width of the St. Lawrence separating it from the populous eastern United States, this region was the scene of much military action. This varied from large engagements such as the Battle of Crysler's Farm during the War of 1812 and numerous border skirmishes during the Rebellion of 1837-38 to the alarms of the Fenian Raids. Throughout its history, the St. Lawrence region was characterized by its strong adherence to the British connection, and the various uprisings which occurred in the province found little support here. At the present time a section of the earliest settled land along the river between Cornwall and Iroquois is being submerged as a result of the great new seaway and hydro-electric developments, but there are still many fine old buildings dating back to the early days of settlement.

**GANANOQUE:** **COL. JOEL STONE** (1749-1833), a United Empire Loyalist, came to Canada in 1786 and in 1789 founded this community. He was in command of the local militia when the village was raided by United States forces in September, 1812. A plaque erected here tells the story of the notorious river pirate **BILL JOHNSTON** (1782-1870) who, operating from a base in the Thousand Islands, attacked British shipping and raided the Canadian mainland.

**BROCKVILLE:** This community was founded in 1784 by **WILLIAM BUELL** (1752-1832), a Loyalist who was its leading citizen and benefactor for many years. In February, 1813, the village was raided by an American military force commanded by Major Benjamin Forsyth. During the Rebellion of 1837-38 "Patriot" sympathizers threatened this area and a **BLOCKHOUSE** was built on what is now known as Blockhouse Island. Plague sheds were also constructed on this island to house victims of the great cholera epidemic of 1832.

Historical plaques commemorate two of Brockville's famous citizens: **OGLE R. GOWAN**, the founder of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America, and **GEORGE CHAFFEY** who was largely responsible for the establishment of Australia's irrigated fruit growing industry. Brockville's **COUNTY COURT-HOUSE**, erected in 1842, is one of the community's outstanding 19th century buildings.

**MAITLAND:** A cairn marks the site of a shipyard at Pointe-au-Baril in which the last French ships of war to sail Lake Ontario were built. Near Maitland is the **LITTLE BLUE CHURCH**, a picturesque frame structure which stands on the site of two earlier chapels. In this churchyard is the grave of **BARBARA HECK** (1734-1804), the founder of Methodism in North America.

**PRESCOTT:** **COL. EDWARD JESSUP**, the famous commander of Jessup's Rangers during the American Revolution, was granted land on the site of this community as a reward for his services. In 1810 a town site was laid out on his grant which he named after Robert Prescott, the Governor in Chief of Canada (1797-1807). It was from this town that Lieutenant-Colonel "Red George" Macdonell on February 22, 1813 led a daring and successful raid on the strong American military post at Ogdensburg.



The Little Blue Church





## Fort Wellington

**T**HIS fort was originally constructed during the War of 1812 and included a blockhouse, artillery barracks, officers' quarters, engineers storerooms and stables. In 1813 it saw its only action when its guns fired on the American forces commanded by Major-General Wilkinson as they passed down the St. Lawrence. The fort and military reserve passed into private hands after the war. During the Rebellion of 1837 military engineers rebuilt the blockhouse in the substantial form in which it is seen today. A garrison of royal artillery stayed there for a few years following that uprising. Thereafter, with the exception of brief periods of occupation during the Fenian Raids and the Red River and North West Rebellions, it was not used for military purposes. It is now preserved as a national historic site and military museum.



**THE BATTLE OF THE WINDMILL:** An historic old stone windmill built in 1822 still stands about two miles east of Prescott. On November 12, 1838, a force of over 200 armed invaders, sympathizing with Mackenzie's Rebellion, landed near here. They were for the most part American citizens who had joined the secret Hunters' Lodges and were led by Col. Nils von Schoultz, a former officer in the Polish army. He was a courageous but misguided man who felt that he was freeing an oppressed people who, when he landed, would flock to his support.

The invaders repulsed the first force of Canadian militia which appeared on the scene. However, with the arrival of more British and Canadian reinforcements including regulars from Kingston, von Schoultz concentrated his force within the stout walls of the windmill. After a vigorous defence which caused a considerable number of casualties on both sides, he was compelled to surrender on November 16. Von Schoultz and a few of his followers were executed while others were transported to Van Diemen's Land.

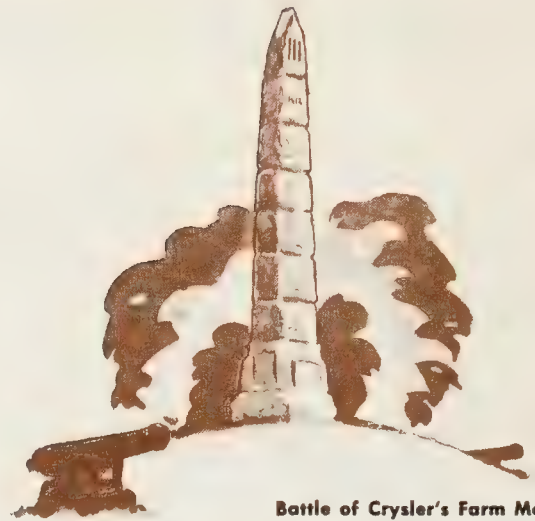


**UPPER CANADA VILLAGE:** Near Morrisburg the Ontario-St. Lawrence Development Commission is at present engaged in assembling some of the more significant historic structures of the flooded region in a simulated village of the early 19th century. This is expected to be one of the province's outstanding historical attractions.

**THE BATTLE OF CRYSLER'S FARM:** About six miles east of Morrisburg is the site of one of the decisive battles of the War of 1812. A large American army commanded by Major-General James Wilkinson was moving down the St. Lawrence with the intention of joining another United States force which was invading Lower Canada. They intended to attack Montreal. Wilkinson's army was followed by a smaller British and Canadian contingent commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Morrison. The American commander detached Brigadier-General John Boyd to deal with Morrison's force. The opposing armies met at Crysler's Farm on November 11, 1813, and after a fierce struggle the Americans were repulsed. This action, combined with the defeat of United States forces at Chateaugay in Lower Canada, saved Montreal. The battlefield is now largely under the waters of the lake formed by the gigantic new St. Lawrence Seaway dam. The monument commemorating the battle has been moved about a mile to the north of the original site.

**DUNDELA:** A monument near here marks the spot where stood the original tree which produced the famous apples known as MacIntosh Reds, named after the owner of the property on which it stood, John MacIntosh.

**CORNWALL:** The original town plot was laid out in 1784 and the Loyalists who were its first residents called it New Johnstown after Sir John Johnson under whose command many of them had served during the American Revolution. In 1797 the name was changed to Cornwall in honour of the Duke of Cornwall, third son of George III. It became the chief town and administrative centre of the old Eastern District. One of Cornwall's most famous citizens was the *REV. JOHN STRACHAN* (1778-1867), later Bishop of Toronto. In 1803 he opened a grammar school in Cornwall which was generally considered to be the best in the province. Many of the future leaders of the so-called "Family Compact" were educated there. The *WOOD HOUSE*, a fine stone residence erected in the early 1840's by William Wood, is one of the city's most interesting historic structures. It is now preserved as a museum.



**Battle of Crysler's Farm Monument**

**ST. ANDREWS WEST:** The former church at St. Andrews, now used as a parish hall, is one of the oldest in eastern Ontario. It served the Roman Catholic Highlanders who settled in this area. In its churchyard are buried such famous historical figures as *SIMON FRASER*, the great explorer who first descended the Fraser River, *JOHN SANDFIELD MACDONALD*, the first Premier of Ontario, and *MILES MACDONELL*, the superintendent of Lord Selkirk's ill-fated Red River Colony.

**GLENGARRY HOUSE:** About five miles east of Cornwall a cairn marks the ruins of the former home of Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonell (Aberchalder). His stone residence, one of the finest in the province, was built in 1791 and destroyed by fire in 1813. Macdonell was the first Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada and the commanding officer of the Glengarry militia.



**The Wood House**



**ST. ELMO:** This village is the birthplace of the Rev. Charles W. Gordon (1860-1937), who, under the pen name of *RALPH CONNOR*, became one of Canada's most successful novelists.

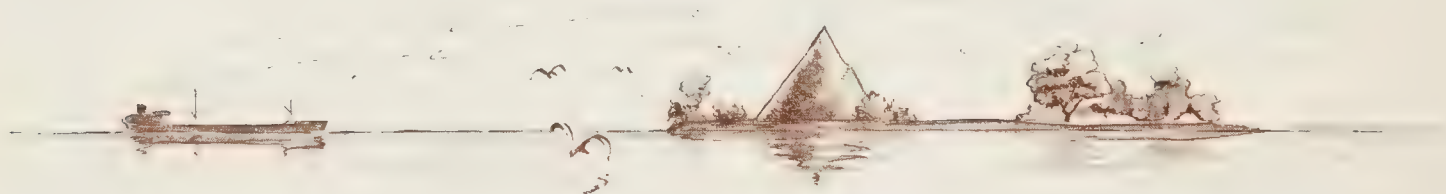
**ST. RAPHAEL:** A cairn in this village commemorates the Rt. Rev. *ALEXANDER MACDONELL* who founded this parish and who was one of Glengarry's most famous historical figures. Born in Scotland, he organized and acted as chaplain of a Highland regiment known as the Glengarry Fencibles which served with distinction in Ireland and elsewhere. When it was disbanded, Macdonell obtained grants of land for its members in Glengarry, Upper Canada, and led them there in 1804. During the War of 1812 he assisted in raising a second regiment of Glengarry Fencibles. In 1826 he was made the first Roman Catholic bishop in Upper Canada. He was long the spokesman of Glengarry's Scottish settlers and was highly regarded by members of all faiths.

A plaque at St. Raphael marks the site of the farm on which *JOHN SANDFIELD MACDONALD* was born. He was joint Prime Minister of Canada from 1862 to 1864 in the Sicotte-Macdonald and Dorion-Macdonald administrations and served as the first Premier of Ontario from 1867 to 1871.

**WILLIAMSTOWN:** This charming village retains much of the flavour of early Glengarry. It was here in 1787 that the *REV. JOHN BETHUNE* founded the province's first Presbyterian congregation. The present *ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH* was commenced in 1812. Many Scottish partners of the famous North West Fur Trading Company were members of its congregation. A plaque commemorates one of these, *DUNCAN CAMERON*, who led the Nor'Westers' violent opposition to Selkirk's attempt at settlement in what is now Manitoba. Bethune's frame home, now privately owned, still exists in an excellent state of preservation. *DAVID THOMPSON*, the famous surveyor and explorer of the Canadian West, lived in Bethune's former home from 1815 to about 1835.

The great Loyalist leader, *SIR JOHN JOHNSON*, built a sawmill and grist-mill here on the Au Raisin River about 1790. A manor house was constructed for his use at about the same time. This historic building, now privately owned, still stands on its original site.

**SOUTH LANCASTER:** On Monument Island is a large stone cairn which commemorates the services of the Glengarry militia during the Rebellion of 1837.



Monument Island

## The Ottawa Valley Region

**T**HE first white man to ascend the Ottawa was probably Etienne Brulé in 1610. Champlain passed this way en route to Allumette Island in 1613. The Ottawa, Lake Nipissing, French River route was, throughout the days of the fur trade, the favourite pathway to the West. Over it passed the canoes of the *coureurs de bois* and the Nor'Westers on their way to Michilimackinac, the Sault, Fort William and the Athabaska country.

The fur traders were followed by the lumbermen. Philemon Wright, who founded Hull in 1800, was the first of any note. He was followed by George Hamilton, Charles and Alexander Sheriff, J. R. Booth, A. K. Egan, H. F. Bryson, E. B. Eddy and many others. From the shores of the Ottawa itself and from the Madawaska, Petawawa, Bonnechere, Mattawa and many other tributary streams came the squared timber which went into the great lumber rafts. During most of the 19th century, these were a common sight on the river as they floated down on their way to Quebec where they were loaded on board ships bound for Europe.

Permanent settlers along the Ottawa were slow to arrive. The seigniory of L'Original had been established in the vicinity of the present town of Hawkesbury during French times, and as early as 1790 a certain James Fox is said to have settled near the present site of Rockport. However, the appreciable growth of population dates from the military settlements of 1818-21 and the construction of the Rideau Canal 1826-32.





**BYTOWN (Ottawa):** Although Nicholas Sparks (1792-1862) and some others had taken up land on the site of Ottawa earlier, Bytown's establishment coincided with the construction of the Rideau Canal. Col. By established his headquarters here and by 1837, five years after the completion of the canal, the village had a population of 2,400. In addition to the benefits received from the canal's traffic, Bytown became an important focal point in the lumber trade. The timber slides to circumvent the Chaudiere Falls were built on each side of the Ottawa and government agents stationed here collected duties on forest products. To the French Canadian and Irish lumbermen fresh from the bush, Bytown was the first contact with civilization and, as might be expected, brawls were not uncommon.

**OTTAWA:** In 1855 Bytown was officially renamed Ottawa and in 1857, after several other communities had put forward rival claims for the honour, Queen Victoria selected it as Canada's capital. The first *PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS* were erected 1860-66. The centre block, with the exception of the library, was destroyed by fire in 1916. Rebuilding commenced immediately and was largely completed by 1920. Other historic buildings in Ottawa include: *LAURIER HOUSE*, the former residence of two Canadian Prime Ministers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and W. L. Mackenzie King; *EARNSCLIFFE*, a former home of Sir John A. Macdonald, now the residence of the United Kingdom's High Commissioner; and *RIDEAU HALL*, built by Thomas McKay about 1838 and since Confederation the official home of the Governor General of Canada.

**MILITARY SETTLEMENTS:** In 1818 a settlement of discharged soldiers and other British emigrants was established in the vicinity of the Jock River, a tributary of the Rideau, under the jurisdiction of the Quartermaster-General's Department. They disembarked at Richmond Landing, now within the city of Ottawa, and cut a road through the bush to their land in March Township. In 1819 they were visited by the Duke of Richmond, Canada's Governor in Chief, after whom this settlement was named. A cairn commemorates his tragic death which occurred here after he had been bitten by a rabid fox. The government, with the aid of Scottish Emigrant Societies, sponsored a similar settlement in 1820-21 in the vicinity of Lanark. Most of the latter settlers were from Lanarkshire and other points in western Scotland.



Laurier House

**THE COMMISSARIAT BUILDING:** Beside the locks of the Rideau Canal is the oldest existing stone building in Ottawa. This structure was completed in 1827. It was used as a storehouse, office and treasury during the construction of the canal and its fine masonry is typical of the stone work done by Col. By's skilled Scottish masons.



**CHIEF MACNAB:** In 1823 Archibald MacNab, the last chief of his ancient clan, finding himself hard-pressed by his creditors in Scotland, fled to Canada. Although autocratic and vindictive by nature, he possessed considerable influence and charm and was able to obtain control over the uncleared land which now constitutes MacNab Township. On this land MacNab settled a considerable number of Highlanders, many of them from his own clan.

In his role as a district magistrate, MacNab frequently committed those who offended him to jail on trumped-up charges or sent them to remote areas to perform statute labour on the roads. Accustomed to following the orders of their chieftain and ignorant of their settlement rights, they submitted for many years to what amounted to feudal rule. MacNab was highly regarded by members of the "Family Compact" who controlled the administration of Upper Canada at that time. By various means, some of them highly illegal, MacNab controlled the granting of land patents, collected quit rents and sold timber from the settlers' land.

Finally, in 1840-41 after the Durham Report and the consequent discomfiture of the Compact, an official investigation of MacNab's actions was made by the government. As a result, his powers were withdrawn. He left Canada in 1843 and died in France in 1860. His first residence Kennel Lodge, was situated in Arnprior. A later home which he called Waba Cottage was built on White Lake and existed until the 1930's.

**MATTAWA:** The site of this community was from earliest days of European settlement an important point along the fur trade routes. Near here the "Champlain Trail" leads up the Mattawa, across Lake Nipissing and down the French River to Georgian Bay. The great explorer himself passed over it in 1615. The Nor'Westers traversed it and then coasted along the shores of Lake Huron and Lake Superior to the Grand Portage and Fort William. Another route proceeds north from Mattawa by Lake Timiskaming and thence to the Abitibi region and James Bay. During the 19th century a Hudson's Bay post was situated at Mattawa.

**ALMONTE:** Near Almonte is the fine old *MILL OF KINTAIL*, built by a Scottish emigrant, John Baird, in 1830. In 1930 it was restored by *ROBERT TAIT McKENZIE* (1867-1938), a prominent Canadian surgeon, educator and sculptor who used it as his summer home and studio. It is now preserved as a pioneer museum and memorial to McKenzie.

**RENFREW AND PEMBROKE:** These two communities depended on the lumber trade and sawmills for their early growth. Many of their first settlers had worked for the great lumber companies of the region. Peter White, who came in 1823, was probably the first settler on the site of Pembroke. He served under Admiral Nelson and at a later date in Sir James Yeo's squadron on Lake Ontario.

The first settler on the site of Renfrew was probably a squatter named Coyle. He was followed by Joseph Brunette, a jobber for the lumber companies. However, Renfrew's most prominent early settler was John Lorne McDougall, a former fur trader who acted as a justice of the peace. He was noted for his forthright actions and on one occasion arrested some roistering lumbermen and sentenced them to hard labour on the construction of a bridge in the village.

**CHAMPLAIN'S ASTROLABE:** In 1613 Samuel de Champlain made a portage near the site of Cobden while ascending the Ottawa. On that occasion he lost his astrolabe, an instrument used to determine geographical position. It was found in 1867 near Green Lake, and a cairn beside highway #17 commemorates this fact.

**THE OPEONGO ROAD:** In the 1850's the government constructed the Ottawa and Opeongo Colonization Road which ran for about 100 miles from Farrell's Landing near Renfrew toward Opeongo Lake. Free lands were offered to those who settled along it and a large number of emigrants poured into Renfrew County. A colonization agent, T. P. French, was at first enthusiastic in his reports, but later the difficulties of farming in the Precambrian Shield became more apparent. Nevertheless, with the aid of part time employment with the lumber companies, many settlers established themselves along the road and it proved of great benefit to lumbering operations.



Mill of Kintail



# Northeastern Ontario



Moose Factory

**I**T was not until the beginning of the 20th century that this region, embracing the present districts of Nipissing, Timiskaming and Cochrane, began its rapid development. However, its history goes back to the early days of European settlement. The Hudson's Bay posts at the mouths of the Albany and Moose Rivers on James Bay were established in the 17th century. In 1686 a French military expedition led by the *CHEVALIER DE TROYES* journeyed northward from Lake Timiskaming to Lake Abitibi and thence down the Abitibi and Moose Rivers to James Bay where it captured the English posts. The French themselves had trading forts in this region such as Abitibi and Piscoutagamy. Later, the Hudson's Bay Company and Canadian traders established rival posts at various inland sites.

The great mineral resources of the area were not discovered until the late 19th century. These were closely linked with railway construction. In 1883 the CPR was being pushed through the rugged Laurentian Shield. The grade had reached a point about three miles west of the newly named station of Sudbury when a blacksmith named Tom Flannagan noticed a mineral showing along the face of the cutting. This discovery started an exploration of the great *SUDBURY BASIN*, now the source of most of the world's nickel. However, it was not fully developed for some years. Nickel, known as "Old Nick's Copper," was at first a nuisance to miners and it required the invention of new production methods and the discovery of uses for it by Dr. Ludwig Mond and others before it realized its full potential.

In the 1890's the agricultural communities of New Liskeard and Haileybury were established in the Little Clay Belt at the head of Lake Timiskaming. The Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway (now Ontario Northland) was built to connect them with civilization and was then pushed northward to meet the trans-continental line at Cochrane. In the *COBALT* area J. McKinley and E. Darrach, who were cutting ties for the railroad, discovered cobalt silver deposits but did not realize their worth. Interest was first stimulated when Fred La Rose made a strike in September 1903. Another important mineral in this region is gold. The *LARDER LAKE* area was discovered by W. H. F. Addison, J. D. Loudon, H. L. Kerr and Dr. R. Reddick in 1905, while the great *KIRKLAND LAKE* camp owed its original development in 1911 to W. H. Wright and E. Hargreaves.

**JEAN NICOLET:** One of the earliest of the great French explorers, Nicolet was sent by Champlain in 1620 to dwell with the Nipissings, an Algonkian tribe living in the vicinity of North Bay and along the shores of Lake Nipissing. For more than eight years he stayed in this area learning the language and customs of its people. The Nipissings occupied a strategic area along the main trade routes to the West, and Nicolet's efforts made them firm allies of the French. In 1634 he explored Lake Michigan and ascended the Fox River in what is now Wisconsin. He was drowned near Quebec in 1642.

**MOOSE FACTORY AND FORT ALBANY:** Moose Factory, the second trading post established by the Hudson's Bay Company, was built by Charles Bayly in 1672-73 on Moose Island (then known as Hayes Island). The French captured it in 1686 and it was not permanently re-established by the Hudson's Bay Company until 1730. It has been in continuous operation ever since.

Fort Albany was founded before 1679 on Bayly Island at the mouth of the Albany River. The position of this ancient Hudson's Bay post has been changed from time to time to various sites in the same general area, and it is now operated on Albany Island. Its possession changed hands several times during the wars with France. From 1697 to 1713 it was the only post on Hudson or James Bay remaining under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company.



**PORCUPINE MINING CAMP:** A plaque at South Porcupine, near Timmins, commemorates the birth of this gold mining district, now the largest in the Western Hemisphere. In 1909-10 material for its development had to be transported thirty-two miles by trail and canoe from the railway over a route which became known as the Golden Trail. The original Porcupine Mining Recorder's Vault has been preserved as an historic structure.



**Mining Recorder's Vault**



**Drummond Cairn**

**TIMAGAMI:** On Bear Island in Lake Timagami a plaque in front of the present trading post gives the history of the Hudson's Bay Company's establishments in this region.

**FREDERICK HOUSE:** On the shores of Frederick House Lake near Timmins is the site of a Hudson's Bay post established in 1785 by Philip Turnor. It was erected to counteract the activities of Canadian traders who intercepted Indians bringing furs to Moose Factory. The Canadians set up a post near Frederick House and competition became intense and mutually unprofitable. In the winter of 1812-13 three Hudson's Bay employees were massacred by an Indian. Following this disaster no permanent establishment was maintained at Frederick House, and at present no trace of this post remains.

**DR. W. H. DRUMMOND:** East of Cobalt is the site of the former home of Dr. William Henry Drummond (1864-1907) who achieved fame for his poems written in the French Canadian dialogue.

Archibald Belaney lived in Timagami (now spelled Temagami) from 1906-10. Born in England, he took the title of *GREY OWL* and after adopting the life of an Indian became famous for his books dealing with conservation.



**Bear Island**





# Manitoulin

**T**HIS largest of fresh water islands was inhabited by the Ottawas, a tribe of Algonkian stock, at the time of the first European contact. In local Indian mythology it was the dwelling place of a supreme spirit gitchi-manitou and an evil spirit matchi-manitou. In 1648-49 the Jesuit mission of St. Pierre was established on Manitoulin by Father Joseph Antoine Poncet. After the dispersion of the Huron nation by the Iroquois in 1649-50 a number of the refugees fled to Manitoulin.

In the 1820's a Roman Catholic mission to the Ottawas and Potawatomi was established at Wikwemikong under Father Jean Baptiste Proulx. An Anglican mission was begun at Manitowaning in 1838 by the Rev. Charles Brough. In 1836 Sir John Colborne, Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, authorized a plan which would gather the nomadic tribes from the Lake Huron-Georgian Bay area and settle them on Manitoulin. Although not wholly successful, a considerable number subsequently moved there. The Indian agent at Coldwater, Thomas Gummersal Anderson, established his headquarters at Manitowaning and the annual treaty money and gifts previously granted at Penetanguishene were thereafter distributed on the island.

In order to obtain possession of Manitoulin as a government reserve an important treaty was signed at Manitowaning in August, 1836, with the resident Indians. However, as so frequently happens, a second treaty in 1862 threw open most of the island to white settlement with the exception of its extreme eastern peninsula. Township surveys began in 1863 and a considerable influx of white settlers started shortly thereafter. Agriculture and lumbering became important industries at Manitoulin. A substantial number of Indians still live on reserves on the island.

**SHEGUIANDAH:** A remarkable archaeological site was discovered here in 1951 on an eminence overlooking the North Channel. Some archaeologists believe that artifacts found there pre-date the more recent glacial periods and may date back 30,000 years or more. Over 8,000 artifacts have been collected from the site and these represent several distinct periods of aboriginal occupation.

**LITTLE CURRENT:** Through the narrows of the North Channel opposite Little Current passed the canoes of most of the famous Canadian explorers, missionaries and fur traders. The Hudson's Bay Company had a post there in the 19th century.

**THE OBIDGEWONG BURIAL GROUND:** This is the only non-Christian Indian graveyard left on Manitoulin. It is situated south of Indian Point on lot 24, concession 1 in Mills Township. The Obidgewong band came to Manitoulin from Drummond Island after the latter had been ceded to the United States. They were at first a populous group and lived on a separate reserve in the vicinity of the present graveyard. However, in the 1920's only five remained and the reserve was sold. The burial ground is being preserved as an historic site.

**HISTORIC BUILDINGS:** Of particular historical interest are the early frame churches at Manitowaning and Wikwemikong. The old *ESTABLISHMENT BUILDING* at Manitowaning still exists and is now used as an historical museum.



# Algoma



Fort St. Joseph

**B**EFORE the coming of the white man, Algoma was the hunting ground of the Ojibwa, a tribe of the widespread Algonkian group. The stream connecting Lakes Superior and Huron on which are now situated the Canadian and American cities of Sault Ste. Marie was a favourite gathering place because of the excellent fishing found there. It is probable that Etienne Brulé was the first white man to visit this strait which the French originally called Sault de Gaston in honour of the brother of the King of France. Jean Nicolet camped here in 1634 on his way to Green Bay, and the Jesuit Fathers Isaac Jogues and Charles Raymboult attended an Indian "feast of the dead" in 1641. In 1668-69 a mission station was established by Fathers Jacques Marquette and Claude Dablon on what is now the American side of the Sault.

Formal possession of the surrounding region was claimed for France in 1671 by Sieur de St. Lusson. As part of this ceremony, a great wooden cross was erected and a formal proclamation read and interpreted to the 2,000 Indians who were in attendance. In 1750 Louis de Bonne and Louis le Gardeur, Sieur de Rapentigny, were granted an extensive seigniory at the Sault. In the course of developing their lands they induced Jean Baptiste Cadotte to settle here. He was probably the first agriculturalist in the region and later played a prominent role in the fur trade and the life of the community.

Following the English conquest of Canada, the Sault became a gathering place for fur traders, including the famous Alexander Henry. The North West Company had a post here. Originally on the right bank, it was moved to the Canadian side in the 1790's following American occupation of the opposite shore. The Hudson's Bay Company kept up the post for some time after the amalgamation of the two companies in 1821. The Canadian Pacific Railway reached the Canadian Sault in 1887. However, the town's modern development began around the turn of the century when, through the initiative of Francis H. Clegue, water power was exploited, a pulp mill built and the iron mines of Michipicoten utilized to build a great steel industry.

**ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND:** Under the terms of Jay's Treaty in 1794 the British agreed to abandon their military outpost and trading centre at Michilimackinac. In 1796 the military forces stationed there were moved to St. Joseph's Island and by 1798 a blockhouse, barracks, powder magazine and certain related structures had been erected. It was from this post that in 1812 an expedition commanded by Capt. Charles Roberts set out to capture American-held Michilimackinac. Robert's force included a small detachment of regulars supported by North West Company voyageurs and Indians. The success of the expedition secured the Northwest for the British during the War of 1812.

At the end of the War, Michilimackinac was returned to the Americans and in 1815 a new British military post was established on Drummond Island. Some of the buildings were moved there from St. Joseph's and only a small detachment was left to guard the remaining equipment and structures. In 1828 Drummond Island in its turn was handed over to the United States and the British military forces on the upper Great Lakes withdrew to Penetang. The ruins of Fort St. Joseph may still be seen and a cairn marks the area as a national historic site.





"H.B.C. Blockhouse"

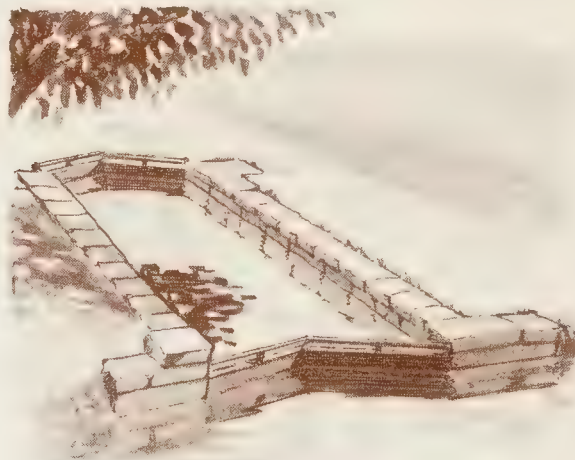
**SAULT STE. MARIE ONT.:** A portion of the "*BLOCK-HOUSE*" which once formed part of the Hudson's Bay Company's establishment still exists at Sault Ste. Marie and has been renovated for use as a private residence. Another structure of great historical interest is the *ERMATINGER HOUSE*. This old stone residence was commenced about 1814 by Charles Ermatinger, an independent fur trader who was one of the most prominent early citizens of the Canadian Sault.

The original predecessor of the great canals which bypass the St. Mary's rapids was built by the Nor'Westers in 1797-98. This tiny *CANAL* and *LOCK* on the Canadian side was intended to float freight canoes and bateaux. A portion of this old canal has been reconstructed and is marked as an historic site.



Ermatinger House

**POINTE AUX PINS:** On this peninsula a short distance west of Sault Ste. Marie Ontario, the first ships on Lake Superior were built. In 1734 a sailing bark was constructed there by Louis Denis, Sieur de la Ronde, who used it in an unsuccessful attempt to establish copper mines on the south shore of Lake Superior. In 1769 Alexander Henry, the fur trader, and a group of associates organized a company to mine copper, and in 1772 they launched a sailing vessel of some 40 tons near the shipyard used by La Ronde. The site of La Ronde's and Henry's activities at Pointe aux Pins was later used for the same purpose by the North West Company.



The Canal Lock

**MICHIPICOTEN:** In the early 18th century the French established a trading post at the mouth of the Michipicoten River. It was long an important post since one of the great trade routes to James Bay went up the Michipicoten and thence down the Missinaibi and Moose Rivers. Michipicoten seems to have been in almost continuous occupation until the end of the French regime.

In the 1760's Alexander Henry traded there and it was afterwards operated by the North West Company. Later the Hudson's Bay Company took it over and operated it until about 1902. The ruins of the old post still remain on the eastern side of the Michipicoten River. At least two other posts were established in the 18th century on the route leading north from Michipicoten. These were *OLD BRUNSWICK HOUSE* at Wapiscogamy Creek on the Missinaibi River and *NEW BRUNSWICK HOUSE* on Brunswick Lake.

**EARLY MINES:** Copper was mined on a small scale by the Indians of Lake Superior but the first serious attempt by any European in what is now Ontario seems to have been made by Alexander Henry in 1772-73 near Mamainse Point. A shaft was sunk thirty feet into a vein of copper which steadily diminished in size. A small amount of copper was refined and sold which did not even cover the group's expenses. The earliest copper mining of any significance in the province was commenced at *BRUCE MINES* in the late 1840's under the direction of the Montreal Mining Company.



# Northwestern Ontario



SOME of the most colourful pages in Canada's history concern the region stretching from the head of Lake Superior to what is now the Manitoba border. Through this rugged land of forests, lakes and streams ran the early routes of trade and exploration which connected the Great Lakes to the largely unknown West. The region had long been the scene of bitter struggles between the Cree and Ojibwa and the Sioux. As early as 1679 a European post was established at the mouth of the Kaministiquia River by Daniel Greysolon, Sieur *DU LHUT*. This seems to have had a comparatively brief existence but a more substantial fort was erected there in 1717 by Zacharie Robutel, Sieur de *LA NOUE*, which remained in operation until the final years of the French regime. These posts were on the site of the present city of Fort William. In 1688 Jacques de *NOYON* ascended the Kaministiquia River and proceeded by Dog Lake, Lac des Milles Lacs and the Rainy River to Rainy Lake. The most significant aspect of this expedition was the discovery of the Lake of the Woods.

The famous explorer Pierre de *LA VERENDRYE* spent the winter of 1731 at the Kaministiquia post. He sent his nephew, Christophe Dufrost, Sieur de *LA JEMERAYE*, westward ahead of him and that winter the latter constructed *FORT ST. PIERRE* on the outlet of Rainy Lake. The site of this post is believed to be on Pither's Point, near Fort Frances. In 1732 La Verendrye went forward to the Lake of the Woods where he erected Fort St. Charles in what is now American territory in the Northwest Angle. This post became a base for further exploration to the West. One of this great explorer's difficulties was the necessity of keeping peace among the neighbouring tribes. On the whole, he was successful. However, in June, 1736, he suffered a cruel blow when his son, Jean Baptiste de La Verendrye, and some twenty others including Father Jean-Pierre Aulneau were massacred while on their way from Fort St. Charles to Kaministiquia. The site of this tragedy is *MASSACRE ISLAND* situated off the northwest tip of Big Island in Lake of the Woods.

**THE GRAND PORTAGE:** The route from Lake Superior to the West most commonly used by the French was that which began near the mouth of the Pigeon River and was known as the Grand Portage. In large part, it follows the present international boundary to Rainy Lake. Following the British conquest in 1760 numbers of independent fur traders employing skilled French Canadian voyageurs continued to pass over it. When, after years of bitter competition among themselves, most of these traders united to form the North West Company, the fort at the eastern terminus of the Grand Portage became their great inland depot. However, at the beginning of the 19th century it became evident that this route bordered on American territory and in order to avoid interference with their trade, the Nor'Westers transferred their inland headquarters to Kaministiquia in 1803.

**FORT FRANCES:** There were at least three forts erected on the north bank of the Rainy River near the present town of Fort Frances. The first, Fort St. Pierre, as has already been mentioned, was built on Pither's Point in 1731. Sometime between 1775-1787 the North West Company built a fort on the present site of Fort Frances. This was known as *FORT LAC LA PLUIE* or Rainy Lake House. It was abandoned in 1821 and a cairn marks the site. The third fort was built by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1816 within less than a mile of the Nor'Westers' establishment. It remained in use until late in the 19th century. At first it bore the same title as its rival, but in 1830 it was renamed Fort Frances in honour of the wife of Governor Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company.





The Sleeping Giant

**FORT WILLIAM:** During the period 1803-21 there could have been few more colourful communities than Fort William. The Kaministiquia post had been given this name in 1807 in honour of William McGillivray, principal director of the North West Company. This was the great meeting place where the wintering partners met their colleagues from Montreal at an annual conclave. The smaller northern canoes from the scattered posts of the wilderness carried their furs here. The pelts were then loaded into the great freight canoes which had brought the year's supplies of trade goods from Montreal. During the two or three weeks of the annual assembly at Fort William, up to 3,000 factors, clerks and voyageurs were present and business was mingled with pleasure.

The stockaded fort included a great banqueting hall, men's quarters, warehouses, workshops and many other structures. Possibly the most exciting incident in the fort's history was its seizure in 1816 by Lord Selkirk in retaliation for the Seven Oaks Massacre at his Red River Colony. The competition between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Nor'Westers, climaxed by the quarrel with Lord Selkirk, proved ruinous for the latter, and the companies amalgamated in 1821. As a consequence, supplies for the united organization could be brought in more economically by ship from Hudson Bay and Fort William lost its importance.

The Hudson's Bay Company operated a local post at Fort William until the 1880's and an Indian mission was established there in the 1840's. However, the community stagnated until the discovery of silver deposits in the area in the late 1860's. The first bulk shipment of wheat left here in 1883 on the steamer "Erin." The Canadian Pacific Railway reached Fort William from the East in 1885.

**PICTOGRAPHS:** Along the old Indian routes and portages which traverse the lake-dotted wilderness west of Superior are many ancient Indian pictographs (rock paintings). These may be seen at Cuttle Lake, Blindfold Lake, Mameigwess Lake, Indian Lake, Painted Rock Island, Agawa, Lac des Milles Lacs and many other sites.

**PORT ARTHUR:** It is probable that Robert McVicar, a Crown land agent and former fur trader, built the first house on the site of Port Arthur. The settlement's original growth was based on the discovery of mineral deposits in this vicinity in the 1860's. The McKellar family and particularly Peter McKellar were the pioneers in these finds which resulted in the establishment of the Enterprise, Thunder Bay and other mines.

After Confederation the Canadian government sent expeditions to explore the territory between Lake Superior and the Red River. The first connecting route (which utilized water communications as well as those by land) was commenced in 1868 by Simon J. *DAWSON*, C.E. In 1870 the military expedition led by Col. Garnet *WOLSELEY*, while on its way to curb the first Riel Rebellion, landed at the site of Port Arthur and proceeded westward over the Dawson Trail. Wolseley named it Prince Arthur's Landing in honour of Prince Arthur, later Duke of Connaught and Governor-General of Canada. The settlement was renamed Port Arthur in 1882. After the construction of a railroad, was commenced in 1875 most of the supplies were landed here. However, in 1884 a dispute with the Canadian Pacific Railway caused the latter to concentrate its activities at Fort William. In 1902 the Canadian Northern Railway initiated a new period of prosperity by making Port Arthur its lakehead terminus.

**THE SILVER ISLET MINE:** One of Canada's most interesting and unusual mines was located on a small island situated about a mile off shore near Thunder Cape in Lake Superior. A rich vein of silver was discovered in 1868 by Thomas MacFarlane on what became known as Silver Islet. This small dot of land measured less than 100 feet in any direction with a maximum elevation of eight feet above water. Waves sometimes washed completely over it and a constant battle involving the construction of extensive crib work had to be waged against the encroaching lake. Great difficulties and danger were undergone in order to sink a shaft from this restricted space. However, under the direction of the courageous and resourceful mining engineer W. B. Frue, Silver Islet became, between 1872-84, one of the world's largest silver mines.



The Historical Branch of Ontario and Publicity, acting on the advice of the Ontario and Historic Sites Board, has endeavored to commemorate persons, events and places of historical importance. It is hoped that this publication will be at the rate of some fifty plaques a year. The location of these plaques are listed in the following page number when reference is made in the future.

on-the-Lake on the River Road  
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH—  
the-Lake. P. 6

JOHN McLEAN—In front of his former home on Nottingham Street, Guelph. P. 16

[illegible]

38-297 [ATION—St. Williams' Forestry Sta-

HOME OF GEORGE BROWN—Beverly Street, Toronto.  
PAUL KANE—Wellesley Street East, Toronto.

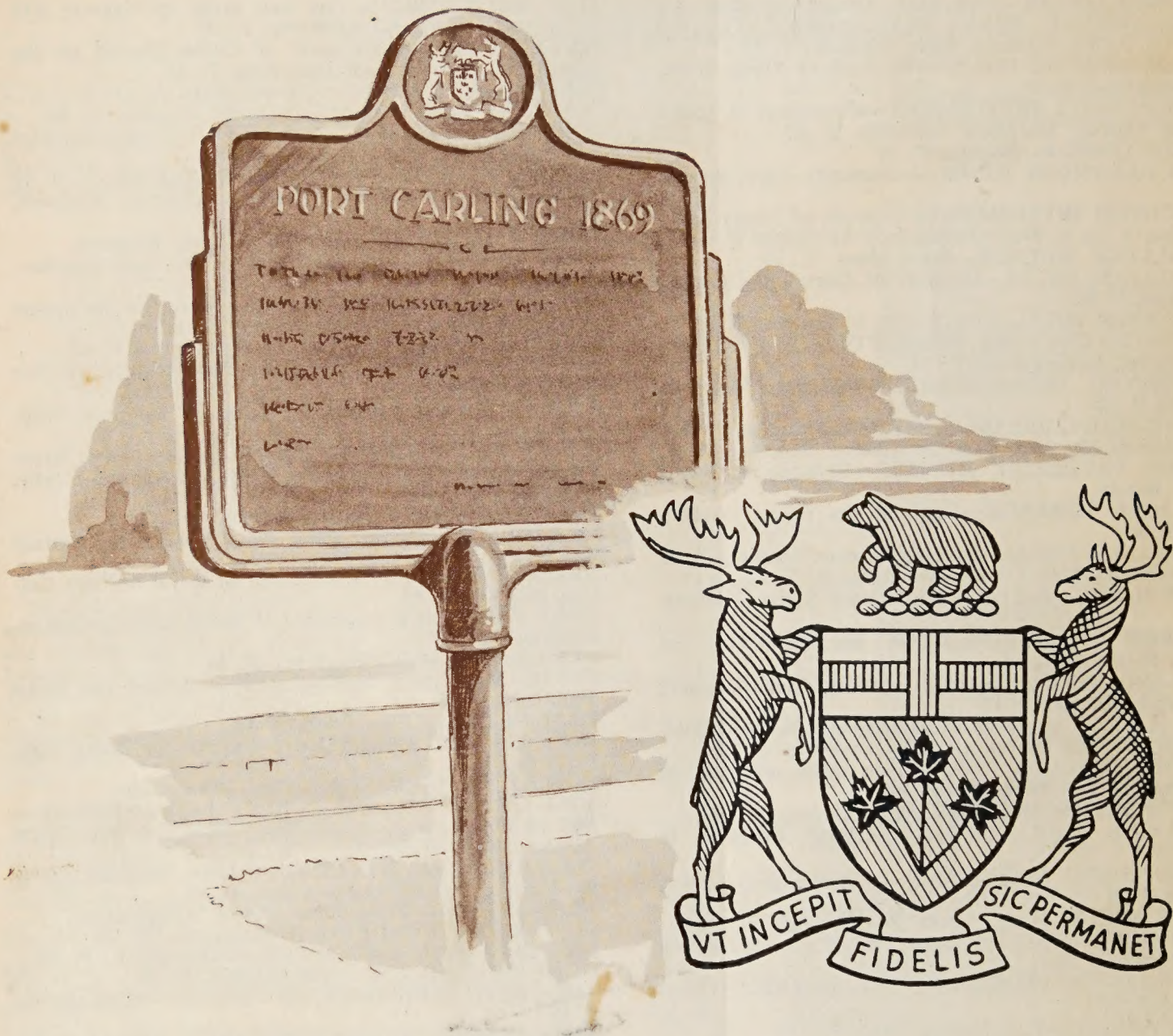


COLBORNE LODGE—High Park, Toronto. P. 27  
 KING'S COLLEGE—Queen's Park, Toronto.  
 QUEEN'S PARK—Queen's Park, Toronto. P. 27  
 QUAKER MEETING HOUSE—West side of Yonge Street, near Newmarket. P. 29  
 THE DE PUISAYE SETTLEMENT—Grounds of St. John's Anglican Church, Markham Township. P. 30  
 SHARON TEMPLE—Sharon. P. 30  
 DAVID ALLANSON JONES—Community Park, Beeton. P. 29  
 THE SCOTCH SETTLEMENT—Grounds of "Auld Kirk" concession 8, lot 6, West Gwillimbury Township. P. 30  
 SIR WILLIAM MULLOCK—Bond Head. P. 30  
 SIR WILLIAM OSLER—Grounds of Community Centre, Bond Head. P. 30  
 COLDWATER MILL—Eplett's Mill, Coldwater. P. 33  
 ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD—Maple Street, Collingwood. P. 34  
 THE NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT—Garrison Reserve, Penetang. P. 32  
 THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT—Grounds of Officers' Quarters Museum, Garrison Reserve, Penetang. P. 32  
 ANDREW FREDERICK HUNTER—Grounds of Public Library, Barrie.  
 NINE MILE PORTAGE—Opposite the railway station, Barrie. P. 34  
 ADMIRAL BAYFIELD—Garrison Reserve, Penetang. P. 32  
 ST JAMES-ON-THE-LINES—Penetang. P. 32  
 SAINTE MARIE—Just below the Martyrs' Shrine, Midland. P. 31  
 GATEWAY TO HURONIA—On the hill above the Martyrs' Shrine, Midland.  
 PENETANGUISHENE ROAD—Junction of highways #12 and 27 near Midland. P. 32  
 SAINT IGNACE II—South of highway #12 between Coldwater and Victoria Harbour, in Tay Township. P. 32  
 COWAN'S TRADING POST—Seven miles northeast of Coldwater, in Tay Township. P. 32  
 PURDY'S MILLS—McDonnell Park, Lindsay. P. 36  
 CATHARINE PARR TRAILL—"Westove", Lakefield. P. 35  
 THE ROBINSON SETTLEMENT—Victoria Park, Peterborough. P. 36  
 SCOTT'S MILLS—Water Street, Peterborough. P. 36  
 COURT-HOUSE AND JAIL—In front of the court-house, Peterborough. P. 36  
 EXPLORERS OF MUSKOKA AND HALIBURTON—Baysville. P. 37  
 PORT CARLING—Port Carling locks. P. 37  
 MUSKOKA ROAD—Kahshe Park, on highway #11 about five miles north of Washago. P. 37  
 GULL RIVER AND THE CLERGY HOUSE—Minden. P. 37  
 LT. COL. CHARLES R. McCULLOUGH—Library Building, Bowmanville. P. 37  
 THE WICKLOW CHURCH—Wicklow. P. 38  
 BARNUM HOUSE—Grafton. P. 37  
 VICTORIA HALL—In front of the Town Hall, Cobourg. P. 38  
 VICTORIA COLLEGE—In front of the Ontario Hospital, Cobourg. P. 38  
 WILLIAM WELLER—North end of Victoria Park, Cobourg. P. 38  
 COBOURG AND PETERBOROUGH RAILWAY—University Avenue, Cobourg.

HAY BAY CHURCH—  
 in the township of Adolph  
 ORONHYATEKHA—Gro  
 Tyendinaga Reserve near  
 SIR GILBERT PARKER—Camden East. P. 39  
 NAPANEE MILLS—Springside Park, Napanee. P. 39  
 THE WHITE HOUSE—Collin's Bay, about ten miles west of Kingston on highway #33. P. 40  
 ONTARIO'S FIRST GOLD MINE—Near Eldorado. P. 40  
 SUMMERHILL—Queen's University campus, Kingston. P. 42  
 MILITIA GARRISON—Macdonald Park, Kingston.  
 FORT HENRY—At the main gate of this fort, Kingston. P. 43  
 GOVERNMENT HOUSE—Since the erection of this plaque Alwington House has been destroyed by fire.  
 SIEUR DE LA SALLE—City Park, Kingston. P. 41  
 SIR RICHARD BONNYCASTLE—Parade Square of Fort Henry, Kingston. P. 43  
 RIDEAU CANAL—Beside the locks at Kingston Mills. P. 44  
 BISHOP ALEXANDER MACDONELL—In front of Notre Dame Convent at the corner of Bagot and Johnson Streets, Kingston. P. 41, 48  
 HILLCROFT—Union Street, Kingston. P. 42  
 HEATHFIELD—South side of highway #2 at the western approach to Kingston. P. 42  
 THE STONE FRIGATE—Grounds of Royal Military College, Kingston. P. 42  
 FORT FREDERICK—Grounds of Royal Military College, Kingston. P. 42, 41  
 ALEXANDER MORRIS—Perth. P. 44  
 PERTH MILITARY SETTLEMENT—Behind the Town Hall, Perth. P. 44  
 LAST FATAL DUEL—Perth. P. 44  
 HON. MALCOLM CAMERON—Behind the Town Hall, Perth. P. 44  
 HON. G. HOWARD FERGUSON—Kemptonville.  
 MILL OF KINTAIL AND ROBERT TAIT MCKENZIE—Mill of Kintail on the Indian River about four miles from Almonte. P. 50  
 COMMISSARIAT BUILDING—Bytown Museum beside the locks at foot of Rideau Canal. P. 49  
 FRASERFIELD—Three miles west of Williamstown.  
 ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH—Williamstown. P. 48  
 SIR JOHN JOHNSON'S MILLS—Williamstown. P. 48  
 DUNCAN CAMERON—Williamstown. P. 48  
 THE BETHUNE-THOMPSON HOUSE—Williamstown. P. 48  
 JOHN SANDFIELD MACDONALD—St. Raphael. P. 47, 48  
 COL. EDWARD JESSUP—Grounds of Fort Wellington, Prescott. P. 45  
 FORSYTH'S RAID—Blockhouse Island, Brockville. P. 45  
 WILLIAM BUELL—Courthouse Avenue, Brockville. P. 45  
 OGLE R. GOWAN—Courthouse Avenue, Brockville. P. 45  
 BLOCKHOUSE ISLAND—Blockhouse Island, Brockville. P. 45  
 GEORGE CHAFFEY—Victoria Park, Brockville. P. 45  
 "PIRATE" JOHNSTON—Gananoque. P. 45  
 CAPTAIN MILES MACDONELL—St. Andrews West. P. 47  
 TEMAGAMI POST—Bear Island, Lake Timagami. P. 52  
 PORCUPINE MINING AREA—Porcupine, Whitney Township, near Timmins. P. 52  
 FORT LAC LA PLUIE—Fort Frances. P. 56







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